

LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

January 5, 1977 to July 25, 1977

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of the committee. The 4 public members and the department or agency heads or their representatives shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The 4 public members shall be representative of the industry; commerce and political subdivisions of Maine, and shall not be officials or employees of the State.

The Governor or his representative and the appointed department or agency heads or their representatives shall serve on the Standardization Committee without additional compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in connection with such service. The 4 public members shall be paid the necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, and in addition thereto, they shall each receive \$25 per day for attendance at committee meetings.

A majority of the members shall elect a recording secretary of the Standardization Committee, who shall maintain a complete record of the minutes of every committee meeting. Upon the request of the committee, the State Purchasing Agent shall furnish such assistance as the committee requests. The committee shall meet at least semiannually and at such other times as the Commissioner of Finance and Administration may request or at such other times as may be deemed necessary by at least 3 members of the committee. Committee meetings shall be held at such locations as may be agreed upon by a majority of the members of the committee.

The per diem allowance and the expenses of the public members and the expenses of the Governor or his representative, and the designated department or agency heads or their representatives, for attendance at committee meetings, shall be paid from the appropriation of the State Bureau of Purchases.

It shall be the duty of the Standardization Committee to advise the State Purchasing Agent and the Commisioner of Finance and Administration in the formulation, adoption and modification of the rules and regulations which shall prescribe the purchasing policy of the State and to assist the State Purchasing Agent in the formulation, adoption and modification of the specifications as may be deemed necessary for the procurement of services, supplies, materials and equipment required for use by the State or any department or agency thereof.

In addition, whenever the State Purchasing Agent, after having received bids on a contract, awards the contract to anyone other than the lowest responsible bidder, shall notify the Standardization Committee. The Standardization Committee shall evaluate the reasons for that award in a written report. That report shall be made available for public inspection in the office of the Department of Finance and Administration during normal business hours.

Effective October 24, 1977

CHAPTER 333

AN ACT Concerning the Payment of Workmen's Compensation Pending an Appeal to the Supreme Judicial Court. Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

39 MRSA § 104-A as amended by PL 1973, c. 746, § 10, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 104-A. Compensation payments; penalty

The employer or insurance carrier shall make compensation payments as follows:

1. Order or decision. Within 10 days after the receipt notice of an approved agreement for payment of compensation or within 10 days after any order or decision of the commission awarding compensation. Payment shall not be suspended thereafter in the event of appeal to the law court from such order or decision as provided in section 103, except that the commission shall retain jurisdiction, pending the decision on appeal, to enter orders or decisions as provided in section 100. If the commission, after a review of incapacity under section 100, issues an order or decision denying compensation to an employee, compensation shall be suspended from the date of the commission's order or decision, notwithstanding any appeal of that order or decision to the law court as provided in section 103.

2. Failure. In the event of failure by the employer or insurance carrier to pay compensation as provided in this section, a penalty, not to exceed \$25 for each day of noncompliance, shall be assessed against the employer or the insurance carrier. All penalties collected shall be deposited with the Treasurer of State.

This section shall not apply to claims involving employees of the State.

If an employer who is required to secure the payment to his employees of the compensation provided for by this Act, fails to do so, he shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by both. Failure of an employer, after imposition of the foregoing penalty, to secure the payment of compensation under this Act after notice by the commission to such employer to do so shall, as to each such notice, be deemed a further violation in respect thereof and the same penalty shall be imposed. If such employer is a corporation, the president or treasurer, or both, shall be liable for such penalty.

Effective October 24, 1977

CHAPTER 334

AN ACT Relating to Voter Registration.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. 21 MRSA § 103 is enacted to read: