

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

AT THE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

January 2, 1980 to April 3, 1980

AND AT THE

THIRD SPECIAL SESSION

May 22, 1980

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH IN
ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

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PUBLIC LAWS
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except as otherwise provided. It may exercise general supervision through an executive director, who shall be employed pursuant to the Personnel Law.

2. Annual report. An annual report shall be prepared for the Governor concerning the number of participants, premiums charged, utilization of benefits and operating costs. The report shall also include recommendations regarding future operation of the program.

3. Funding. The cost of administration shall be funded from an administrative allowance to be negotiated with the health benefit carriers. Indirect costs may not be allocated to the program.

Effective July 3, 1980

CHAPTER 658

H. P. 1747 — L. D. 1863

AN ACT Relating to Group Self-insurers under the Workers' Compensation Act.

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

Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA § 601, sub-§ 16, is enacted to read:

16. Group self-insurance authorization.

- A. For filing application for initial authorization, including all documents submitted as part of the application \$300
- B. Authorization and each annual continuation 100
- C. Filing yearly report of group self-insurer 50

Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA § 2323, sub-§ 5, is enacted to read:

5. Group self-insurer. As used in this section, "insurer" shall include:

- A. Insurer as defined in section 4; and
- B. Group self-insurer as defined in Title 39, section 23.

Sec. 3. 24-A MRSA § 4435, sub-§ 6, as enacted by PL 1969, c. 561, is amended to read:

6. Member insurer. "Member insurer" means any authorized insurer which writes any kind of insurance to which this subchapter applies and any group self-insurer as defined in Title 39, section 23.

Sec. 4. 24-A MRSA § 4435, sub-§ 8, is enacted to read:

8. Insurer. "Insurer" means any insurer as defined in Title 24-A, section 4, and any group self-insurer as defined by Title 39, section 23.

Sec. 5. 39 MRSA § 23, sub-§ 4, ¶¶ H - L are enacted to read:

H. Fee schedules applicable to group self-insurers are those set forth in Title 24-A, section 601.

I. All group self-insurers shall be subject to the provisions of Title 24-A, chapter 57, subchapter III.

J. Each group self-insurer shall record its loss expense and experience in accordance with Title 24-A, section 2323.

K. Special study of the Superintendent of Insurance.

(1) The Superintendent of Insurance is directed to conduct a study to determine the effect of group self-insurers authorized pursuant to this chapter upon the workers' compensation insurance plan. The superintendent is directed to form a special committee to assist in this study.

(2) The special committee shall consist of 2 members representing each of the following groups who shall be appointed by the superintendent:

- (a) Workers' compensation insurers;
- (b) Group self-insurers;
- (c) Labor; and
- (d) The public.

(3) The study may not commence until 2 years following initial authorization of a group self-insurer pursuant to this chapter.

(4) Each insurer and group self-insurer providing workers' compensation coverage during the calendar year in which the study commences shall be assessed a fee not to exceed \$100. These assessments shall be used for the purpose of conducting the study.

(5) Following completion of the study, the superintendent shall report to the Governor and the Legislature. The report shall contain his findings as to the impact of group self-insurance on the workers' compensation insurance plan and his recommendations for additional legislation.

L. Annual examinations of each group self-insurer, as required by the

superintendent, shall be performed by public accountants acceptable to the superintendent and reports rendered to the superintendent within a reasonable period, as determined by the superintendent subsequent to the group self-insurers elected fiscal year. The examinations shall be conducted pursuant to generally accepted accounting principles, as they are consistent with precepts prescribed by the superintendent, which place sound values on assets and liabilities of group self-insurers. Other examinations of the affairs, transactions, accounts, records and assets of each group self-insurer and of any person as to any matter relevant to the financial affairs of the group self-insurer shall be conducted as often as the superintendent deems advisable. The expense of examination of a group self-insurer shall be borne by the person examined.

Effective July 3, 1980

CHAPTER 659

H. P. 1909 — L. D. 1976

AN ACT to Further Define a Cord of Wood.

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

Sec. 1. 10 MRSA § 2302, sub-§ 1, ¶ A, as repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 91, § 1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

A. A standard cord is a unit of measure of wood products 4 feet wide, 4 feet high and 8 feet long, or its equivalent, containing 128 cubic feet when the wood is ranked and well stowed. Any voids that will accommodate a stick, log or bolt of average dimensions to those in that pile shall be deducted from the measured volume.

Sec. 2. 10 MRSA § 2302, sub-§ 1, ¶ A-1 and A-2 are enacted to read:

A-1. A cord when used in connection with sawdust, chips or shavings means the volume of material contained in 128 cubic feet at the time of sale.

A-2. Fuel wood, when sold loose, shall be sold by the cubic foot, unless other arrangements are made between the buyer and seller.

Effective July 3, 1980