

CHAPTER 285—H. F. No. 1076

An act relating to powers of the commissioner of insurance; authorizing him to obtain injunctive relief against agents and solicitors; amending Minnesota Statutes 1967, Section 60A.17, Subdivision 9.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 60A.17, Subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. Insurance; injunctive relief against agents; powers of commissioner. (1) **Witnesses, books and records.** The commissioner shall have full power to summon and compel the attendance of witnesses before him to testify in relation to any matter which is, by the provisions of the laws of this state relating to insurance, a subject of inquiry or investigation, and may require the production of any book, paper, or document deemed pertinent thereto. The summons shall be served in the same manner and have the same effect as subpoenas from district courts of this state. All witnesses summoned shall receive the same compensation as is paid to witnesses in the district court, which shall be paid out of the funds of the department of insurance, upon proper vouchers for the same, signed by the commissioner; and the commissioner shall, at the close of the hearing wherein the witness was subpoenaed, certify to the attendance and mileage of the witnesses, which certificate shall be filed with the vouchers. All investigations held by, or under the direction of, the commissioner may, in his discretion, be private, and persons other than those required to be present may be excluded from the place where the investigation is held, and witnesses may be kept separate and apart from each other and not allowed to communicate with each other until they have been examined.

(2) **Administration of oaths.** The commissioner and his deputy or assistant commissioner are each hereby authorized and empowered to administer oaths and affirmations to any person appearing as witness before them; and false swearing in any matter or proceeding shall be perjury and punished as such.

(3) **Contempt.** Any witness who refuses to be sworn or who refuses to testify, or who disobeys any lawful order of the commissioner, his deputy or assistant commissioner, in relation to any investigation, or who fails or refuses to produce any paper, book, or document touching any matter under examination, or who is guilty of any contemptuous conduct, after being summoned to appear before him to give testimony in relation to any matter or subject under examination or investigation, may be summarily punished by the com-

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missioner, his deputy or assistant commissioner, as for contempt by a fine in a sum not exceeding \$100.

Disobedience of any subpoenas in such proceeding, or contumacy of a witness, may, upon application of the commissioner, be punished by any district court in the same manner as if the proceedings were pending in such court.

(4) **Punishment as to agent, solicitor or insurer.** The commissioner shall revoke the license of any agent or solicitor or insurer refusing or neglecting to appear or testify at any hearing held before the commissioner, or failing or refusing to produce any books, papers, or documents demanded by the commissioner, when these persons have been notified by him, in writing, to so appear and testify or produce books, papers, or documents demanded by the commissioner, when these persons have been notified by him, in writing, to so appear and testify or produce books, papers, or documents at the hearing.

(5) **Injunctions.** *The commissioner may obtain equitable relief in any district court of this state prior to or concurrent with any other action taken by him.*

Approved May 6, 1969.

CHAPTER 286—H. F. No. 1164

[Coded]

An act relating to fire hose threads and fittings; establishing standard specifications; providing a penalty.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. **Fire protection; hose threads and fittings.** [73.305] **Fire hose threads and fittings to be uniform.** All fire hose fittings, apparatus fittings, 1 1/2 and 2 1/2 inches in diameter, purchased or procured after January 1, 1970, by fire departments operating in Minnesota, shall be of the national standard hose thread as adopted by the national fire protection association. Any person selling non-standard hose couplings, fittings, or apparatus fittings, 1 1/2 and

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