317A.909 CORPORATIONS FOR RELIGIOUS PURPOSES.

Subdivision 1. **Benefits for members.** When authorized by its members or otherwise, a corporation formed for a religious purpose may provide directly or through a church benefits board for:

(1) support and payment of benefits to its ministers, teachers, employees, or functionaries and to the ministers, teachers, employees, or functionaries of a nonprofit organization affiliated with it or under its jurisdiction;

(2) payment of benefits to the surviving spouses, children, dependents, or other beneficiaries of the persons named in clause (1);

(3) collection of contributions and other payments; or

(4) creation, maintenance, investment, management, and disbursement of necessary endowment, reserve, and other funds for these purposes, including a trust fund or corporation that funds a "church plan" as defined in section 414(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended through December 31, 1988.

Subd. 2. **Insurance laws not applicable.** The insurance laws of this state do not apply to the operations of a corporation under subdivision 1.

Subd. 3. **Property exempt from taxation.** Except for property leased or used for profit, personal and real property that a religious corporation necessarily uses for a religious purpose is exempt from taxation.

Subd. 4. [Repealed, 2005 c 10 art 2 s 5]

Subd. 5. **Church benefits board.** A "church benefits board" is an organization described in section 414(e)(3)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended through December 31, 1988, whether a civil law corporation or otherwise, the principal purpose or function of which is the administration or funding of a plan or program for the provision of retirement benefits or welfare benefits for the employees of a church or a convention or association of churches, if the organization is controlled by or associated with a church or a convention or association of churches.

Subd. 6. **Church benefits board as trustee.** A church benefits board may act as trustee under a lawful trust and may act as agent for the performance of a lawful act relating to the purposes of the trust.

History: *1989 c 304 s 128; 2009 c 43 s 1*