

The MAIF receives no general funds from the State of Maryland and its assets are not part of the Treasury of the State. As a result, MAIF is not subject to the normal budgetary review procedures. The reasons for this broad exemption, as noted in oral testimony before the Committee were (1) the difficulty in estimating what personnel and other resources would be needed by MAIF in order to operate, and (2) the impossibility of accurately estimating what amounts will be needed to pay claims.

The assets of the MAIF are derived from four sources: (1) A transfer of all the assets of the UCJF as of the close of business on December 31, 1972. The purpose of this transfer is to allow the processing and payment of claims which had been previously filed against the UCJF, or which could have been filed against the UCJF but for its merger into MAIF. (2) For 1973 only, every person registering a vehicle in this State must pay a fee of \$1.50. This fee is to replace the \$40.00 uninsured motorist fee previously paid by uninsured motorists to the UCJF, and is committed exclusively to the payment of claims against uninsured motorists. As the number of uninsured claims will be reduced by virtue of compulsory insurance, this one-time fee will not be necessary in the future. (3) Each insurer authorized to write automobile liability insurance in this State may be assessed up to 2% of its net direct written automobile liability premiums. This is merely a carryover of the assessment previously levied by the UCJF, and is committed exclusively to the payment of those claims against uninsured motorists which may always be with us for the reasons mentioned above. (4) Moneys collected from premiums and earnings from investments.

Since the total number of policies to be underwritten cannot be accurately predicted, the Fund has not attempted to build up a large permanent staff and then possibly face a future lay-off. Rather, it has used the vehicle of permanent employees supplemented with office temporary help (Code, 1957, 1968 Repl. Vol., 1972 Supp., Art. 48, sec. 234B, 240A, 240AA, 240B-240D, 242, 243-243L; 1970 Repl. Vol., 1972 Supp., Art. 66½, secs. 538-546).
Staff: Permanent, 260; temporary, 91.

BOARD OF STATE CANVASSERS

Reginald A. Asplen, Chairman of the State Administrative Board of Election Laws; Louis L. Goldstein, Comptroller of the Treasury; J. Millard Tawes, State Treasurer; James H. Norris, Jr., Clerk of the Court of Appeals; Francis B. Burch, Attorney General.

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The Board of State Canvassers, originally created by Chapter 202, Acts of 1896, had its membership expanded by Chapter 739, Acts of 1967. Its membership was reconstituted by Chapter 555, Acts of 1969. It meets thirty days after any State election to tabulate the votes cast for each candidate from the certified statements of votes made by the city and county boards of canvassers. The Board declares who is elected and delivers a certificate of election to the Administrative Board. It issues the proclamation of election, keeps the records of the Board, and delivers a copy to the Governor who issues a commission to the persons elected (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 33, secs. 18-1, 18-2).