

investigate the expediency of granting such permit, the number of taxicabs to be used, and the rate to be charged, and, if, in the judgment of the Commission, it is deemed best for the public welfare and convenience that said permit should be granted, said Public Service Commission is hereby empowered and authorized to grant such permit, subject to such conditions and terms, and for such duration of time, not exceeding the period of one year, as it may deem advisable. (But if said Public Service Commission deems the granting of such permit prejudicial to the welfare and convenience of the public, then the said Public Service Commission is hereby empowered and authorized to refuse the granting of the same.) The said Public Service Commission of Maryland is further empowered and authorized to make such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary to govern the control and operation of taxicabs, and enforce the same by such penalties or forfeitures as it may reasonably prescribe, including the suspension or revocation for reasonable cause, or causes, after investigation and hearing, of the permit granted under the provisions of this sub-title; any person, association or corporation of interest who shall be dissatisfied at the action of the Public Service Commission for refusing to grant a permit or for any ruling, order or regulation hereunder, shall have the right of an appeal as provided in Section 404 of this Article and to the Court of Appeals. Every person owning or operating any such taxicab in violation of any of the provisions of this sub-title, or, in violation of the rules and regulations aforesaid of the Public Service Commission, shall, cumulatively but not in substitution for any other process or method of remedial procedure or legal redress prescribed, by this sub-title or otherwise, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not less than five dollars (\$5) nor more than fifty dollars (\$50) for the first offense, and a fine of not less than ten dollars (\$10), nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100), for each additional or subsequent offense. No permit shall be assigned or transferred until the Commission, upon written application setting forth the purpose, terms and conditions of such assignment or transfer, shall, after investigation, approve the same. The Commission may amend, or, for sufficient cause shown, suspend or revoke any such permit. Each permit shall be evidence of authority to operate only the particular taxicab therein designated, and shall continue in force and effect, unless suspended or revoked, for the calendar year for which it is issued. Upon application, at the termination of each calendar year, the Commission (may) renew any permit, or issue a new permit for the ensuing year.

1931, ch. 485, sec. 361B.

361B. The owner of every taxicab for which a permit is required under the provisions of this sub-title, shall, before operating or continuing to operate the same on public streets or highways in this State, either (1) take out a liability insurance policy, or policies, in some responsible insurance company authorized to transact business in this State, insuring such owner against liability for personal injury or injuries, to a passenger