

succeeding such holiday. The 15th day of January of each and every year shall be proclaimed by the Governor as "Martin Luther King Day" and shall be a day of prayer in honor of Martin Luther King. The Governor of this State shall have the power by proclamation to appoint a day or days for the general cessation of business in any one or more of the political subdivisions of the State, in case of emergency from fire, flood or otherwise, with the same legal consequences as hereinabove provided. In case of emergency from fire, flood, storm, snow, robbery, riot, or other cause of any kind whatsoever in any part of the State, the Governor shall have the further power by proclamation to appoint a day or days during which banking institutions (as defined in Article 11 of the Annotated Code of Maryland) within the area or areas designated in the proclamation may remain closed, in which case the appointed day or days shall be treated and considered as the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday, with the same legal consequences as hereinabove provided. If the emergency condition is confined to one or more particular banking institutions or branch offices, the proclamation shall be limited to the institutions or offices so designated. In the event an emergency condition arises and it is not practicable to obtain a proclamation prior to actual closing, the institutions so affected may, by the action of the chairman of the board of directors or the president of the institution, effect a closing; and such closing shall have the same force and effect as a proclamation. In such instances where the chairman of the board or the president elects to effect an emergency closing he shall, as soon as possible, but in no event later than twenty-four (24) hours after closing, notify the Governor or his representative of the reasons for closing. In any case, the emergency closing shall have the force and effect of a proclamation only (a) until the first of the following events occurs: (1) the issuance of a proclamation by the Governor pertaining to the emergency closing, (2) notice to the institution that the Governor declines to issue a proclamation, or (3) reopening of the institution by the chairman of the board or the president; or (b) until five o'clock on the third day (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays) following the day on which the chairman or the president closed the institution.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1973.

Approved May 7, 1973.

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CHAPTER 311

(House Bill 611)

AN ACT to add new Section 243(e) to Article 48A, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1972 Supplement), title "Insurance Code," subtitle "Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund," to follow immediately after Section 243(d) thereof, to provide that [If an insured, previously covered in the Maryland Automobile Insurance Plan, is transferred to a private company, the agent or broker who originally placed the insured and is the producer of record shall receive a commission not less than 10% of the premium upon such transfer.] As of January 1, 1973, if an insured, previously covered in the Maryland Automobile Insurance Plan, is transferred to a private company, the agent or broker who originally placed the insured with the same company and is the producer of record shall receive a commission of 10% of the premiums upon the first transfer or first renewal only if no other agent's or broker's commission is paid. No commissions under this section shall be paid on future renewals.