

preme Lodge Knights of Pythias, and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics; exclusive of the Beneficiary Degree or insurance branch of the National Council Junior Order United American Mechanics) or associations which limit their membership to any one hazardous occupation, nor to similar associations which do not issue insurance certificates, nor to an association of local lodges of a society now doing business in this State which provides death benefits not exceeding three hundred dollars to any one person, or disability benefits not exceeding three hundred dollars in any one year to any one person, or both, nor to any contract of reinsurance business on such plan in this State, nor to domestic associations which limit their membership to the employees of a particular city or town, designated firm, business house or corporation, nor to domestic lodges, orders or associations of a purely religious, charitable and benevolent description, which do not provide for a death benefit of more than one hundred dollars, or for disability benefits of more than one hundred and fifty dollars to any one person in any one year; provided, always, that any such domestic order or society which has more than five hundred members, and provides for death or disability benefits, and any such domestic lodge, order or society which issues to any person a certificate providing for the payment of benefits, shall not be exempt by the provisions of this section, but shall comply with all the requirements of this act. The insurance commissioner may require from any society such information as will enable him to determine whether such society is exempt from the provisions of this act. No society which is exempt by the provisions of this section from the requirement of this act shall give or allow or promise to give or allow, to any person any compensation for procuring new members. Any fraternal beneficiary association heretofore organized and incorporated and operating within the definition set forth in sections 1A, 2A and 3A of this act, providing for benefits in case of death or disability resulting solely from accidents, but which does not obligate itself to pay death or sick benefits, may be licensed under the provisions of this act, and shall have all the privileges and shall be subject to all the provisions and regulations of this act, except that the provisions of this act requiring medical examinations, valuations of benefit certificates, and that the certificate shall specify the amount of benefits, shall not apply to such association.

SEC. 31A. (*Taxation.*) Every fraternal beneficiary association organized or licensed under this act is hereby declared to be a charitable and benevolent institution, and all of its funds shall be exempt from all and every State, county, district, mu-