

and not for profit. Each such association shall have a lodge system, with ritualistic form of work and a representative form of government, and shall make provision only for the payment of benefits in case of sickness, disability or death of its members, subject to their compliance with its constitution and laws. The fund from which the payment of such benefits shall be made and the fund from which the expenses of such association shall be defrayed shall be derived from fees, assessments and dues collected from its members. Payments of death benefits may be made only to the widow, children, grandchildren, mother, father, brother, sister, grandparent, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, first cousin, next of kin who would be distributees of the member's personal estate if he died intestate, to an affianced husband or affianced wife of the member, or to persons dependent upon the member for food, lodging, clothing or education, and to none other; provided, that payment can only be made to a beneficiary by reason of dependency when it is established by documentary proof to the satisfaction of the executive officers of such association that the fact of such dependency, as herein provided, existed at the member's death, and no benefit certificate shall issue designating a beneficiary by way of dependency, unless such dependency shall be fully set forth, in writing, and established by documentary proof to the satisfaction of said executive officers, prior to the issuance thereof. A benefit shall not be assignable except to the beneficiaries above specified, and then only by the consent of such association, attested by its seal and the signature of its supreme secretary and its supreme executive officer; but the member may surrender his benefit certificate and have a new one issued to any one or more of the beneficiaries, as above specified, in the manner provided by the constitution and laws of such association. Such associations shall be governed by the provisions of section 229 to section 242, both inclusive, of this article, and shall be exempt from the provisions of the insurance laws of this State, and no law hereafter passed shall apply to them unless they be expressly designated therein; provided, that any corporations or associations, orders or societies, operating on the lodge system and having ritualistic work in their lodges, councils or societies, whose business it is, in whole or in part, to pay, at the expiration of a fixed period of not less than five years, a sum not exceeding the maximum amount named in their certificates, or paying dividend, withdrawal, surrender or old age benefits, or paying such certificates at the expiration of life expectancy, may conduct their business in this State under the provisions governing fraternal beneficiary societies, orders or associations, with this exception, that no such corporation or association shall be permitted to begin, do or continue business in this State, until it shall have first deposited with the insurance commissioner of this State, the sum of ten thousand dollars in dividend-bearing securities, satisfactory to said commissioner, as a guarantee for the payment of certificates issued by it, which deposit shall be constantly maintained at that amount; provided, however, that any such corporation or association organized under the laws of any other State, which may have,