

State engaged in the work of constructing any sewer, excavation or other physical structure, or the contractors for any such town, city or county, shall be liable in law to any employe engaged in the above-named occupations, or in case of death to his wife, her husband, if the deceased be a married woman, or to his or her parent or children, in accordance with section two of Article sixty-seven of the Code of Public General Laws, for the damages flowing from an injury to said employe or from the death of such employe, when such death or injury is caused by the negligence of the employer or by the negligence of any servant or employe of such employer; and if it appears that such injury or death was caused by the joint negligence of such employer, his servants or employes, on the one hand, and the negligence of the injured or deceased employe on the other hand, then the employer shall be liable for one-half of the damages sustained by such injury or death.

CHAP. 139.
Liable in law
in case of
death
or injury.

SEC. 3. Provided, however, that no employer, town, city or county (or contractor or contractors therefor) shall be liable under the preceding section of this Act, if the said employer, city, town or county (or contractor or contractors therefor) shall pay the following annual sums in advance into the hands of the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Maryland, in monthly instalments: First. Every employer engaged in coal or clay mining or quarrying shall pay the annual sum of one dollar and eighty cents for every person employed and working in the State of Maryland. Second. Every employer engaged in operating any steam railroad shall pay the annual sum of three dollars for every person employed by it residing in the State of Maryland. Third. Every employer engaged in the business of operating any street railway or trolley road shall pay the annual sum of sixty cents for each person employed by it within the State of Maryland. Fourth. Every town, city or county (or the contractor or contractors therefor) shall pay such annual sum of money for each person employed in the work of constructing any sewer, excavation or other physical structure, as the said Insurance Commissioner shall adjudge to be necessary to insure such employes in the sum of one thousand dollars in the event of death in such employment, considering the occupation of trade risk involved; provided, however, that any employer, town, city or county (or contractor therefor) may deduct from the wages of their respective employes a sum not exceeding one-half of the amount payable to said Insurance Commissioner under this Act, and make such deduction by weekly, monthly or other periodic instalments, such employers to inform their employes of this provision at the time of their employment or of the continuance of their employment under this Act as a condition of such

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