

Chap. 455. AN ACT REQUIRING INSURANCE COMPANIES TO GIVE CERTAIN NOTICES OF DECISIONS TO DISCLAIM LIABILITY IN WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION CASES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 152 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 41 the following section: —

Section 41A. The insurer shall give notice to the injured employee in writing within thirty days of receipt of claim for compensation as to whether it accepts or rejects liability.

SECTION 2. This act shall apply to all claims arising on and after its effective date.

Approved July 11, 1975.

Chap. 456. AN ACT AUTHORIZING SCHOOL COMMITTEES TO PERMIT STUDENTS TO OPERATE CERTAIN BUSINESS DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS OF AN EDUCATIONAL NATURE.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 37J, inserted by section 8 of chapter 636 of the acts of 1974, the following section: —

Section 37K. Each school committee may authorize business demonstration projects of an educational nature, to be operated by students as an educational service. Each such project shall be subject to all applicable health, safety and nutritional regulations.

Any such project may be operated independently of any other department or program in the school in which such project is operated. The net proceeds, after all expenses have been deducted, of any sale of food by any such project shall be transferred each month to the school lunch or food service account for the school in which such project is operated. Any such project serving food to a daily average of more than ten per cent of the students in the school, in which such project is located, in any given month, shall, during the remainder of the school year, be governed by the regulations of the school lunch program.

Approved July 11, 1975.

Chap. 457. AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE USE OF COURT TRANSCRIPTS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 91B of chapter 221 of the General Laws, inserted by chapter 585 of the acts of 1965, is hereby amended by striking out the second sentence and inserting in place thereof the following two sentences: — The judge or other officer pre-

siding at such hearing or proceeding shall provide a suitable place in which such stenographer may hear and take notes of all testimony, arguments and rulings. The transcripts of notes taken by stenographers provided under authority of this section shall be admissible in accordance with the provisions of section eighty of chapter two hundred and thirty-three, except that the provisions of this section shall not be applicable to grand jury proceedings.

SECTION 2. Chapter 233 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 80, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:—

Section 80. Transcripts from stenographic notes duly taken under authority of law in any court proceeding by a stenographer duly appointed for the purpose and sworn, when verified by the certificate of such stenographer, shall be admissible as evidence of testimony given whenever proof of such testimony is otherwise competent.

Approved July 11, 1975.

Chap. 458. AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE APPROPRIATION BY CITIES AND TOWNS PROMOTING BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section 5 of chapter 40 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out clause (47), as amended by chapter 638 of the acts of 1967, and inserting in place thereof the following clause:—

(47) For the purpose of establishing and maintaining a business and industrial commission to promote business and industry, a sum not exceeding in any one year eighty thousand dollars.

Approved July 11, 1975.

Chap. 459. AN ACT RELATIVE TO SUSPENDED SENTENCES FOR CONVICTIONS IN THE COURTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1A of chapter 279 of the General Laws, as amended by section 2 of chapter 205 of the acts of 1934, is hereby further amended by striking out the first sentence and inserting in place thereof the following two sentences:— When a person convicted before a court is sentenced to fine and imprisonment, the court may direct that the execution of the sentence, or any part thereof, be suspended, and that he be placed on probation for such time and on such terms and conditions as it shall fix. The court may direct, as one of such terms and conditions, that payment of the fine may be made to the probation officer in