

## THE STATUTE LAWS OF CYPRUS

No. 31 OF 1956.

A LAW TO ESTABLISH A SCHEME OF SOCIAL INSURANCE PROVIDING CASH BENEFITS FOR MARRIAGE, MATERNITY, SICKNESS, UNEMPLOYMENT, WIDOWHOOD, ORPHANHOOD, OLD AGE AND DEATH.

JOHN HARDING,]  
Governor.

[25th October, 1956.

**B**E it enacted by His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Cyprus as follows :—

1. This Law may be cited as the Social Insurance Law, 1956. Short title.

## PART I.—INTERPRETATION.

## Interpretation.

- 2.—(1) In this Law, unless the context otherwise requires—
- “actuary” means a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries or of the Faculty of Actuaries in Scotland ;
- “the appointed day” means such day as the Governor may appoint under section 55 of this Law for the purpose of bringing this Law into operation ;
- “benefit” means benefit which is payable under this Law ;
- “benefit year” means a period beginning on the first Monday of January of any year and ending on the Sunday before the first Monday of January in the following year ;
- “Chief Insurance Officer” means the officer appointed by the Governor for the purpose of carrying the provisions of this Law into effect ;
- “child” means a person who is under the age of fourteen years or a person between the ages of fourteen and eighteen years who is receiving full time education or is attending a course of training approved by the Chief Insurance Officer ;
- “claimant” means a person claiming any benefit under this Law ;
- “confinement” means labour resulting in the issue of a living child, or labour after twenty-eight weeks of pregnancy resulting in the issue of a child, whether alive or dead, and the expression “confined” shall be construed accordingly ;
- “contribution week” means a period of seven days beginning at midnight between Sunday and Monday ;
- “contribution year” means a period of fifty-two or fifty-three contribution weeks, beginning on the first Monday of October in any year and ending on the Sunday before the first Monday of October in the next year ;
- “dependent child”, in relation to any person, means a child who is a child, younger brother, or younger sister, of his and is wholly or mainly maintained by him ;
- “employed person” means a person who is employed in any insurable employment ;
- “exempt person” means a person who, by virtue of the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 5 of this Law, is exempt from liability to pay a contribution as an employed person ;
- “excepted employment” has the meaning assigned to it by section 4 of this Law ;
- “insurable employment” has the meaning assigned to it by section 4 of this Law ;
- “insured person” means a person insured under this Law ;
- “place of employment”, in relation to any person, means the factory, workshop or other premises or place at which he is employed ;
- “trade dispute” means any dispute between employers and employees or between employees and employees which is connected with the employment or non-employment or the terms of employment or the conditions of employment of any persons whether employees in the employment of the employer with whom the dispute arises or not.

- (2) For the purposes of this Law—  
 “child” includes a step-child, an illegitimate child and a child adopted in a manner recognized by law ;  
 “father” includes a step-father ;  
 “mother” includes a step-mother ;  
 “parent” includes a step-parent or a person who has adopted a child in a manner recognized by law ;  
 “umpire” includes a deputy umpire.
- (3) For the purposes of this Law—  
 (a) a person shall be deemed to be over or under any age if he has or has not reached that age ;  
 (b) a person shall be deemed to be between two ages if he has reached the lower, but has not reached the upper, of those two ages ;  
 (c) a person shall be deemed not to have reached the age of eighteen years until the beginning of the eighteenth anniversary of the day of his birth, and similarly with respect to any other age.

## PART II.—INSURED PERSONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS.

3. Subject to the provisions of this Law, every person who on or after the appointed day, is employed in insurable employment shall become insured under this Law and remain so insured throughout his life.

Persons to be insured.

4.—(1) For the purposes of this Law, every employment specified in Part I of the First Schedule to this Law shall be an insurable employment, unless it is an excepted employment, that is to say, an employment specified in Part II of that Schedule.

Insurable employment. First Schedule.

(2) The Governor in Council may make an order amending Part II of the First Schedule to this Law.

5.—(1) For each contribution week during the whole or any part of which an employed person has been employed, three equal contributions shall be payable in accordance with the provisions of this Law, one by the employed person, one by his employer and one out of the general revenue of the Colony :

Three equal contributions.

Provided that—

(a) where on the first day of the week the employed person is an exempt person, that is to say—

- (i) a person under the age of eighteen years ;
- (ii) a person over the age of sixty-five years ;
- (iii) a married woman ; or
- (iv) a widow who is entitled to a widow's pension under this Law,

no contribution shall be payable by him ; the contribution payable by the employer shall be the same as the contribution which would have been so payable if the employed person had not been an exempt person ; and the contribution payable out of the general revenue of the Colony shall be one-half of the contribution which would have been so payable if the employed person had not been an exempt person ;

- (b) where an employed person has rendered no services during any week and received no remuneration in respect of that week, no contribution shall be payable for that week ;
- (c) where one contribution has been paid by an employer in respect of an employed person for any week, no further contribution shall be payable by another employer in respect of that person for the same week.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Law, the weekly rates of the contributions payable under this section by an employed person, by his employer and out of the general revenue of the Colony shall be—

Second  
Schedule.

- (a) the amounts set out in the second column of the Second Schedule to this Law for any contribution week in the period from the appointed day till the 1st October, 1961 ;
- (b) for any contribution week beginning on or after the 2nd October, 1961, such amounts as may be prescribed in an order made by the Governor in Council.

(3) The employer shall, in the first instance, be liable to pay both the contribution payable by himself and also, on behalf of and to the exclusion of the employed person, the contribution payable by that person, and for the purposes of this Law contributions paid by an employer on behalf of an employed person shall be deemed to be contributions paid by the employed person.

(4) The sum to be contributed under this section out of the general revenue of the Colony shall be calculated and paid in such manner as the Accountant-General may determine.

Contributions of  
employed  
persons and  
employers.

6.—(1) Notwithstanding any contract to the contrary, an employer shall not be entitled to deduct from the wages or other remuneration of a person employed by him, or otherwise to recover from such a person, the contribution payable by him in respect of that person ; and any employer who deducts or attempts to deduct the whole or any part of the contribution payable by him in respect of any person from the wages or other remuneration of that person shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding ten pounds.

(2) Where an employed person receives any wages or other pecuniary remuneration from his employer, the amount of any contribution paid by the employer on behalf of the employed person shall, notwithstanding the provisions of any Law or any contract to the contrary, be recoverable by means of deductions from the wages of that person or from any other remuneration due from the employer to that person and not otherwise :

Provided that no such deduction may be made from any wages or remuneration other than such as are paid wholly or partly in respect of the contribution week or part of the contribution week for which the contribution is payable.

(3) Where an employed person does not receive any wages or other pecuniary remuneration from his employer, but receives such remuneration from some other person, the amount of any contribution paid by the employer on behalf of the employed person shall (without prejudice to any other means of recovery) be recoverable as a civil debt, if proceedings for the purpose are instituted within three months from the date on which the contribution was payable.

(4) Where an employed person does not receive wages or other pecuniary remuneration either from his employer or from any other person, the employer shall be liable to pay both the contribution payable by himself and the contribution payable by the employed person, and shall not be entitled to recover any part thereof from the employed person.

(5) Any sum deducted by an employer from wages or other remuneration under this section shall be deemed to have been entrusted to him for the purpose of paying the contribution in respect of which it was deducted.

7.—(1) Any person (including an exempt person), on making application to the Chief Insurance Officer, shall be entitled to receive a certificate of voluntary insurance if—

Voluntary insurance.

- (a) he is ordinarily resident in Cyprus and is gainfully occupied there ; or
- (b) he is ordinarily resident in Cyprus and has paid not less than fifty contributions ; or
- (c) he has paid not less than one hundred and fifty-six contributions ; or
- (d) he is employed outside Cyprus in the service of an employer who is resident in Cyprus or has a place of business there.

(2) A person holding a certificate of voluntary insurance granted under this section shall be entitled to pay a voluntary contribution for any contribution week during which the certificate is in force, provided that no contribution is payable by or in respect of him under section 5 for that week.

(3) The contribution payable under this section by an insured person for any week shall be the sum of the contributions which would have been payable for that week by him and his employer if he had been an employed person during that week, or, in the case of an exempt person, the contribution which would have been payable by his employer.

(4) In respect of every contribution which is paid by an insured person under this section, a contribution equal to one-half of that contribution shall be payable out of the general revenue of the Colony.

8.—(1) A card (in this Law referred to as an "insurance card") shall—

Insurance cards and stamps.

- (a) be provided without charge for each insured person ;
- (b) remain the property of the Government ;
- (c) be current for one contribution year.