

## [ Act No. 701, March 27, 1903 ]

### **AN ACT REQUIRING MUTUAL BENEFIT, RELIEF, AND BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS TO MAKE AN ANNUAL STATEMENT TO THE INSULAR TREASURER OF THEIR RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND FINANCIAL CONDITION, AND PROVIDING FOR THE INSPECTION OF THE ACCOUNTS AND FOR THE EXAMINATION OF THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF SUCH SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS BY THE INSULAR TREASURER.**

*By authority of the United States, be it enacted by the Philippine Commission, that:*

SECTION 1. Mutual benefit, relief, and benevolent societies or associations, whether incorporated or not, formed or organized for the purpose of paying sick benefits to members, or of furnishing S11pport to members while out of employment, or of furnishing professional assistance to members, or of paying to relatives of deceased members a fixed or any sum of money, or providing for any method of accident or life insurance out of dues or assessments collected from the membership, and societies or associations making either or any of such purposes features of their organization on the basis of fixed dues or assessments, shall report to the Insular Treasurer within thirty days after the passage of this Act, or within thirty days after their organization the fad of their formation, the name of the association, its principal place of business, the name of the president, secretary, and treasurer, and board of directors, or the names of officers having the usual duties of such offices by whatever name designated, the general purposes of such societies, and the provision of the constitution or by-laws fixing the amount of dues or assessments and their disposition. Such societies or associations shall annually, on the first day of July, make a full report to the Insular Treasurer of their financial condition and a complete itemized statement of all their receipts and disbursements, including the name and address of the person from whom received and the name and address of the person to whom disbursed.

SEC. 2. Whenever a petition is presented to the Insular Treasurer duly verified by at least three persons interested in such society either as members, beneficiaries, or creditors and showing the necessity or expediency of such act ion. or whenever he deems it proper or necessary, the said Insular Treasurer either by himself or his duly authorized representative must make a careful examination into the. financial affairs of such society or association, verify the resources and moneys on hand, check up the expenditures and ascertain its ability to meet its liabilities and fulfill the obligations entailed upon it by its constitution, by-laws, rules, or regulations.

SEC. 3. Such examination and inspection by the Insular Treasurer shall be had in the province in which such society or association has its principal place of business, and the Insular Treasurer may apply to the Court of First Instance of such province and cause to be issued therefrom subpoenas to witnesses to attend and testify before him and bring with them such books, papers, documents, and letters as may be described in such subpoenas. A witness failing to attend or comply with the forms of the subpoena or refusing to reply to material, relevant, and competent questions touching the subject-matter of the investigation or inspection, shall be punished by the Court of First Instance after proper showing in the same manner and to the same extent as if the failure or refusal of the, witness had occurred in an act ion or