

be sued for and recovered in the name of the State of Maryland by the State's attorney of the county or city in which such agent or agents may reside or in which the offense is committed, one-half of said penalty, when recovered, shall be paid into the treasury of the State, the other half to the informer of such violation.

Insurance Department.

1892, ch. 612. 1894, ch. 256.

121 A. The Insurance Commissioner is authorized to employ a counsel for the insurance department, at an annual compensation not exceeding one thousand dollars, which shall be paid out of the fees of said insurance department.

1894, ch. 272.

122—*Eighth.* Once, at least, during his term of office, and oftener if he should deem it expedient to do so, the Insurance Commissioner shall appoint some competent person or persons, who shall visit the principal office of every insurance company organized under the laws of this State, for the purpose of examining its affairs; and the person or persons so appointed shall have free access to the books and papers of every company thus visited, and shall thoroughly inspect and examine its affairs to such extent and make such inquiries as may be necessary to ascertain its condition and ability to fulfill its engagements, and whether it has complied with all the provisions of law applicable to its transactions. And whenever the Insurance Commissioner may have reason to doubt the solvency or the correctness of the statement of any company not organized under the laws of this State, which may have been licensed to do business in this State, or which may be applying for said license, he shall communicate such doubts and the reasons for them to the Insurance Commissioner or other officer charged with the supervision of insurance corporations of the State in which said company is located, and if he is not satisfied from the information obtained from such Insurance Commissioner or other officer, or from the officers of the company, that the condition of the company is such as to warrant him in permitting it to transact business in this State under the provisions of this article, he shall notify such company that it will be necessary for him to have its affairs examined by