

1977 Senate Bill 317

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CHAPTER 341, Laws of 1977

AN ACT to create 165.55 (14) of the statutes, relating to fire chiefs and the state fire marshal obtaining fire loss information from insurers.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 165.55 (14) of the statutes is created to read:

165.55 (14) The state fire marshal, any deputy fire marshal or fire chief may require an insurer, including the state acting under ch. 619, to furnish any information in its possession relating to a fire loss involving property with respect to which a policy of insurance issued or serviced by the insurer may apply. Any insurer, including the state, may furnish to the state fire marshal, any deputy fire marshal or fire chief information in its possession relating to a fire loss to which insurance issued by it may apply. In the absence of fraud or malice, no insurer furnishing information under this subsection, state fire marshal, deputy fire marshal or fire chief, and no person acting on behalf of the insurer, state fire marshal, deputy fire marshal or fire chief, shall be liable in any civil or criminal action on account of any statement made, material furnished or action taken in regard thereto. Information furnished by an insurer under this subsection shall be held in

confidence by the state fire marshal, deputy fire marshal or fire chief and all subordinates until release or publication is required pursuant to a civil or criminal proceeding. Information obtained by the state fire marshal, any deputy fire marshal or fire chief during their investigations of fires determined to be the result of arson may be available to the insurer of the property involved.
