

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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no

January 20, 1953

To George C. West, Assistant Attorney General assigned to
Department of Health and Welfare
Re: Burial Expenses, Unclaimed Bodies

From all the information I can find, it appears that this problem rests with you.

Although there seems to be ^{no} specific statute dealing with the disposal of dead bodies found in institutions other than the county jails, all other instances of support appear to rest ultimately with the State in the event the deceased had no legal settlement or relatives.

I find that the Department of Health and Welfare has an appropriation for just such contingencies. In the event the person was a pauper, then your appropriation No. 4650 would appear to handle this case; or again it might be appropriation No. 4645. In any event all the information I can find leads to the fact that when the expense falls upon the State it is paid by the Department of Health and Welfare.

James Glynn Frost
Deputy Attorney General

jgf/c