

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# SIXTIETH LEGISLATURE.

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SENATE.

No. 102.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND  
EIGHTY-ONE.

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AN ACT for the promotion of medical science.

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*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives  
in Legislature assembled, as follows:*

SECTION 1. Whoever wilfully and knowingly  
2 shall have in his possession, for anatomical pur-  
3 poses, the body or any part thereof, of any person  
4 dying within this state, unless the same shall be  
5 obtained in the manner provided by section two of  
6 chapter thirteen of the revised statutes, or in the  
7 manner provided by this act, shall be punished by  
8 imprisonment of not more than five years, or by  
9 fine not exceeding three thousand dollars.

SECT. 2. If any person, a resident of this state,  
2 requests or consents, during his life, that his body  
3 may be delivered to a regular physician or sur-

4 geon, for the advancement of anatomical science  
5 after his death, it may be used for that purpose,  
6 unless some kindred or family connection makes  
7 objection.

SECT. 3. The body of any person dying in this  
2 state, which shall not be claimed, reasonable notice  
3 being given for burial by the family or next of kin  
4 of such person, shall be subject to the use of the  
5 medical school of Maine for anatomical purposes,  
6 as hereinafter provided; and if at any time said  
7 school shall receive a greater number of bodies  
8 than it needs for the instruction of its students, it  
9 shall be authorized to deliver the excess to any  
10 regular physician or surgeon for the same purpose  
11 in this state.

SECT. 4. Persons having the care of such bodies  
2 shall forthwith notify the municipal officers of  
3 the town in which such bodies are, and upon the  
4 reception of such notice, the municipal officers of  
5 such town shall immediately notify, by mail or  
6 otherwise, the officers of the medical school of  
7 Maine, and such notice shall state the age and sex  
8 of the deceased, and the cause of death if known,  
9 and on request of the officers of said school, if  
10 made within two days after receiving such notice,  
11 said municipal officers shall deliver such bodies

12 to such officers, or to any regular physician or  
13 surgeon by them designated to receive the same.  
14 But before receiving any such body, said medical  
15 school, physician or surgeon shall give bond to the  
16 treasurer of such town as provided in section two  
17 of chapter thirteen of the revised statutes. Any  
18 person who shall knowingly violate the provisions  
19 of this section, shall forfeit the sum of thirty dol-  
20 lars, to be recovered by an action of debt, one-half  
21 to the use of the prosecutor, and one-half to the  
22 use of said medical school of Maine.

SECT. 5. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent  
2 herewith, are hereby repealed.

# STATE OF MAINE.

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In SENATE, March 12, 1881.

Reported by Mr. BISBEE, from the Committee on the Judiciary,  
laid on the table to be printed under the Joint Rules.

C. W. TILDEN, *Secretary.*