

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 608

S. P. 451

In Senate Feb. 17, 1931.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent down for concurrence. 500 copies ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Crosby of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND THIRTY-ONE

AN ACT relative to the Promotion of Medical Education.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Section 1. Section 2 (two) of Chapter 21 (twenty-one) of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out all of said Section 2 (two) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

'Sec. 2. The professors of anatomy, the professors of surgery, and the demonstrators of anatomy in the medical schools of the state which are now or may hereafter become incorporated by act of the legislature, shall be and are hereby constituted a board for the collection, distribution, and delivery of dead human bodies hereinafter described, to and among such persons as under the provisions of this chapter are entitled thereto. When no medical schools of the state are in active operation, the Superintendent of the Bangor State Hospital, the Superintendent of the Augusta State Hospital, the Superintendent of the Eastern Maine General Hospital, the Superintendent of the Maine General Hospital, and the Superintendent of the Central Maine General Hospital shall constitute such board. The said board shall have full power to establish rules and regulations for its government, and to appoint and remove officers, and shall keep full and complete minutes of its transactions; and records shall also be kept under its direction of all bodies received and distributed by said board, and of the persons to

whom the same are distributed, which minutes and records shall be open at all times to the inspection of each member of said board, the attorney-general, and the county attorney of any county within the state.'

Sec. 2. Section 4 (four) of Chapter 21 (twenty-one) of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out all of said Section 4 (four) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

'Sec. 4. Said board or its duly authorized agent may take and receive such bodies, so delivered as aforesaid, and shall upon receiving them after seven days from the date of decease distribute and deliver them to or among the schools, physicians, and surgeons aforesaid in the following manner. Those schools needing bodies for lectures and demonstrations shall first be supplied as fast as practicable, the number assigned to each to be based upon the number of students in actual attendance, which number shall be returned to the board at such times as it shall direct. The board of distribution may from time to time designate physicians or surgeons who shall receive said bodies, applications to be considered in the order of their receipt by said board. Subject to the provisions of sections 1 (one) to 8 (eight) of this Chapter it shall be lawful for the University of Maine, Colby College, Bates College and Bowdoin College to receive such bodies for the promotion of medical education which shall be construed to include nursing training and pre-medical education.'

Sec. 3. Section 6 (six) of Chapter 21 (twenty-one) of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended by striking out all of said Section 6 (six) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

'Sec. 6. No school, college, university, physician or surgeon shall be allowed or permitted to receive any such body or bodies until a bond shall be given to the treasurer of State by such physician or surgeon, or by and in behalf of such school, college or university, to be approved by a justice of a court of record in and for the county in which said physician or surgeon resides, or in which such school, college or university is situated; such bond shall be in the penal sum of one thousand dollars, conditioned that all such bodies which the said physician or surgeon or the said school, college or university shall receive thereafter shall be used only for the promotion within the state of medical education which shall be construed

to include nursing training and pre-medical education, and when no longer needed for such educational purposes shall be decently buried; said bond shall be examined annually in the month of December, by the treasurer of state, and he shall certify in writing upon each bond in his possession his approval of the same; in case any bond is not approved by him, he shall immediately notify the party giving the same, who shall forthwith file a new bond as hereinbefore provided; whosoever shall sell or buy such body or bodies, or in any way traffic in the same, or shall transmit or convey such body or bodies to any place outside of the state, or cause the same to be done, shall be punished by a fine of not more than two hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than eleven months.'