

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved April 3, 1895.

No. 197, S.]

[Published April 6, 1895.

CHAPTER 117.

AN ACT to amend section 1437, of chapter 58, of the annotated statutes, entitled, "Of medical societies."

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

Regarding the disposition of deceased persons for scientific or other purposes.

SECTION 1. Section 1437, of the annotated statutes, is hereby amended by striking out the word "may" where the same occurs in the ninth line of said section, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "shall;" by inserting before the word "deliver" where the same occurs in the ninth line of said section the words "with out charge;" by inserting after the word "society," where the same occurs in the tenth line of said section the words "or of any legally organized medical college;" by striking out the words "upon being personally satisfied," where the same occur in the eleventh line of said section and inserting in lieu thereof the word "stating;" by inserting after the word "traveler," where the same occurs in the fifteenth line of said section the words "who shall have suddenly died;" and by adding to said section the following: "No person so having charge of any such dead body shall sell or deliver the same to any one to be used for scientific or any other purposes outside of the state of Wisconsin. Any officer or other person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be liable to the person, society or cor-

poration aggrieved in the sum of fifty dollars damages to be recovered in an action;” so that said section, as so amended, shall read as follows: Section 1437. Every public officer having charge of the body of any deceased person, required to be buried at the public expense, shall promptly notify the relatives and friends of such deceased, if he knows or can with reasonable diligence ascertain any of them, and shall deliver the body to any relative or friend, who shall claim the same for interment within a reasonable time after notice; but if no relative or friend shall claim the same within forty-eight hours after death, or if the relatives and friends notified shall have expressed acquiescence in such disposition, he shall without charge deliver such body to that member or agent of the state or any county medical society or of any legally organized medical college who shall first present to him an order therefor, signed by the president or secretary thereof, stating that such body will be used only for the promotion of anatomical science within the state, and that the remains shall be afterwards decently buried without public charge. But no body of any person who in his last sickness requests to be buried, or of any stranger or traveler who shall have suddenly died, shall be so disposed of. No person so having charge of any such body shall sell or deliver the same to any one to be used for scientific or any other purposes outside the state of Wisconsin. Any officer or other person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be liable to the person, society or corporation aggrieved in the sum of fifty dollars damages to be recovered in an action.

Penalty for
violating the
law.

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Approved April 3, 1895.