

HOUSE No. 28.

[Bill accompanying the petition of Howard P. Bellows and others.
Judiciary.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-eight.

AN ACT

Relative to the Promotion of Anatomical Science.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives
in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the
same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Upon the written application of the dean
2 or other officer of any medical school established by law
3 in this commonwealth, the overseers of the poor of a city
4 or town, the trustees for children of the city of Boston,
5 the pauper institution trustees of the city of Boston, the
6 insane hospital trustees of the city of Boston, the penal
7 institution commissioner of the city of Boston, the
8 trustees and superintendent of the state almshouse, state
9 farm, or other public institution supported in whole or
10 in part at the public expense, shall, in accordance with

11 the provisions of this act, give such dean or other officer
12 permission to take the bodies of such persons dying in
13 such town, city, city institution, state almshouse, state
14 farm, or public institution, as are required to be buried
15 at the public expense, within three days of their death,
16 to be used within the state for the advancement of ana-
17 tomical science.

1 SECT. 2. Such officer, before receiving any such dead
2 body, shall give to the board or officer surrendering the
3 same to him a sufficient bond that such body shall be
4 used only for the promotion of anatomical science within
5 this state and so as in no event to outrage the public feel-
6 ing, and that after having been so used the remains shall
7 be decently buried, and further that it shall not be so
8 used till fourteen days from the date of death.

1 SECT. 3. If the deceased person, during his last sick-
2 ness, of his own accord requested to be buried, or, if
3 within fourteen days after his death any person claiming
4 to be and satisfying the proper authorities that he is a
5 friend or of kindred to the deceased, asks to have the
6 body buried, or if such deceased person was a stranger
7 or traveller who suddenly died, the body shall not be so
8 used, but shall be buried.

1 SECT. 4. So much of chapter eighty-one of the Public
2 Statutes and of chapter one hundred and eighty-five of
3 the acts of eighteen hundred and ninety-one and of
4 chapter three hundred and ten of the acts of eighteen
5 hundred and eighty-seven, as is inconsistent with this
6 act is hereby repealed.

1 SECT. 5. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

