

Senate Bill 204

By: Senators Thomas of the 54th, Balfour of the 9th, Unterman of the 45th, Schaefer of the 50th, Hawkins of the 49th and others

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 21 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to disposition of unclaimed dead bodies, so as to change certain provisions relating
3 to the board for distribution and delivery of dead bodies; to provide for related matters; to
4 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Article 2 of Chapter 21 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
8 disposition of unclaimed dead bodies, is amended by revising Code Section 31-21-20 to read
9 as follows:

10 "31-21-20.

11 ~~Professors and demonstrators of anatomy and the deans of medical and dental colleges~~
12 ~~incorporated under the laws of this state shall constitute a board for~~ The academic deans
13 of medical, osteopathic medical, and dental colleges or a representative appointed by the
14 president of such schools incorporated under the laws of this state or otherwise operating
15 in this state with authorization from the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission
16 shall constitute the Board for the Distribution of Cadavers to expedite the distribution and
17 delivery of dead bodies described in Code Section 31-21-21 to and among such institutions
18 as are entitled thereto. This board shall have power to establish rules and regulations for
19 its governance and to appoint and remove its officers and shall keep minutes of its
20 transactions. Records shall be kept, under its direction, of all bodies received and
21 distributed, both from within and without this state, and of the persons or institutions to
22 whom they may be distributed, which records shall be open at all times to the inspection
23 of members of this board, any district attorney, or prosecuting attorney of any city or state
24 court. The board shall appoint a member of the board to be chairperson, and such member
25 shall call at least one meeting per year to carry out the responsibilities of the board. For

1 the purposes of this article, the term 'board' shall mean the Board for the Distribution of
2 Cadavers."

3 **SECTION 2.**

4 Said article is further amended by revising Code Section 31-21-25 to read as follows:

5 "31-21-25.

6 No school or college shall be allowed or permitted to receive any body or bodies described
7 in Code Section 31-21-21 until a bond shall have been given to the ~~Governor~~ Department
8 of Human Resources by or in behalf of the school or college by its authorized officers, to
9 be approved by the clerk of the superior court of the county in which the school or college
10 is situated and to be filed in the office of such clerk. The bond shall be in the sum of
11 \$5,000.00 and shall be conditioned that the body or bodies received thereafter by the school
12 or college shall be used only in the manner specified in this article and solely for the
13 promotion of medical science in this state. Actions thereon shall be in the name of the
14 ~~Governor~~ Department of Human Resources, and any sums recovered shall be deposited in
15 the state treasury."

16 **SECTION 3.**

17 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.