

This PUBLIC BILL originated in the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, and having this day passed as now printed is transmitted to the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES for its concurrence.

Legislative Council,  
31st May, 1888.

Hon. Sir F. Whitaker.

CORONERS ACT AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

<p>Title.</p> <p>1. Short Title.</p> <p>2. Partial disqualification of Coroners.</p> <p>3. Coroners' fees, mileage, &amp;c.</p> <p>4. Deadhouse of hospital deemed to be a public morgue in certain cases.</p>	<p>5. Holder of publican's license not required to receive dead body in certain cases.</p> <p>6. Coroner may order an analysis.</p> <p>7. This Act to be read as part of "The Coroners Act, 1867."</p>
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AN ACT to amend "The Coroners' Act, 1867."

Title.

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Coroners Act Amendment Act, 1888."

Short Title.

2. No Medical Officer to any lunatic asylum or licensed house for the reception of lunatics, or to any prison, shall be competent whilst holding such office to act as Coroner at any inquest on the body of any lunatic dying at such asylum or licensed house, or on the body of any prisoner dying or being executed at such prison.

Partial disqualification of Coroners.

3. Instead of the sums mentioned in the Third Schedule to "The Coroners Act, 1867," as to be payable under the said Act in respect of the several matters in the said Schedule mentioned, there shall be paid after the passing of this Act in respect of the said matters such sums as the Governor in Council may from time to time appoint, but not exceeding in respect of any matter in the said Schedule mentioned the amount specified to be payable in such Schedule in respect of such matter:

Coroners' fees, mileage, &c.

Provided that the Governor may, by any such Order in Council, prescribe that the actual travelling expenses of a Coroner in holding an inquest may be paid in lieu of mileage fees in any case, at the discretion of the Minister of Justice.

4. The deadhouse of every public hospital, in cases where there is no building specially set apart for a morgue within two miles of such deadhouse, shall be taken and deemed to be a public morgue; and the officer in charge of such hospital shall, at the request of any Justice of the Peace, or officer or constable of police, receive into such deadhouse any dead body that may be brought thereto for the purpose of an inquest being held thereon; and if the officer in charge of such hospital shall refuse to receive such dead body for the purpose aforesaid, he shall, on conviction thereof before any Justice of the Peace, forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding *five* pounds.

Deadhouse of hospital deemed to be a public morgue in certain cases.

Holder of publican's license not required to receive dead body in certain cases.

5. Notwithstanding anything contained in "The Coroners Act, 1867," or in section one hundred and thirty-six of "The Licensing Act, 1881," no holder of a publican's license shall be required to receive any dead body for the purpose of an inquest being held thereon if there shall be a public morgue situated within one mile of his licensed premises. 5

Coroner may order an analysis.

6. Whenever, upon any inquest or inquiry, it shall appear to the Coroner, or to a majority of the jury, that the cause of death has not been satisfactorily accounted for, the Coroner, of his own motion, or if required by a majority of the jury, shall forthwith cause a competent analyst to be summoned as a witness; and if, upon his examination, it shall appear to the Coroner, or such majority, that an analysis is required, the Coroner shall direct forthwith the said competent analyst, or some other competent skilled person, to make an analysis. 10

The fee payable for any such analysis shall be of such amount as the Minister of Justice, upon consideration of all the circumstances, fixes as reasonable and fair. 15

This Act to be read as part of "The Coroners Act, 1867."

7. This Act shall be read and construed as part of "The Coroners Act, 1867."