

CORONERS ACT AMENDMENT.

ANALYSIS.

Title.	
1. Short Title.	3. Deadhouse of hospital to be public morgue.
2. Number of jury at inquest altered to six. Not less than five to agree to verdict.	4. Publican not required to receive dead body in certain cases.

A BILL INTITULED

AN ACT to amend "The Coroners Act, 1867."

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

5 1. The Short Title of this Act is "The Coroners Act 1867 Amendment Act, 1883."

10 2. The jury sworn to make inquiry in or upon any inquest which may be held by or under any law for the time being in force shall consist of six persons, of whom not less than five shall agree to a verdict; and, except as herein provided, any Act or law in force respecting inquests before a Coroner shall remain and continue applicable, notwithstanding such alteration in the number of the jury.

15 3. The deadhouse of every public hospital, in cases where there is no building specially set apart for a morgue, 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:

Provided always that, wherever convenient, the inquest on such dead body shall be held at the nearest courthouse.

25 4. 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 two miles of the place from which the dead body is removed for the purpose of such inquest.

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