

No. 591

AN ACT

Providing for the carrying out of the directions of any person with respect to the disposition of any part of his remains to an eye bank or body part bank.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Eye or Body
part bank.

Section 1. Whenever any person shall, in a will or other written instrument, direct that any part of his remains be given for the use of any nonprofit eye bank or body part bank, the person or persons otherwise entitled to control the disposition of the remains of such decedent shall faithfully and promptly carry out the directions of the decedent and, if such instructions are contained in a will, they shall be immediately carried out, regardless of the validity of the will in other respects or of the fact that the will may not be offered for or admitted to probate until a later date.

Direction in will
to be performed
immediately
regardless of
time of probate
and person
responsible
for remains.

Section 2. A post mortem examination of the remains of any person shall not prevent or delay the carrying out of directions of the decedent with respect to the delivery of any part of his remains for the use of any nonprofit eye bank or body part bank, unless that part of the remains is required for the legal purposes of the Commonwealth.

Post mortems
not to interfere
with immediate
disposition.

Section 3. The written direction of any person, whether in a will or other instrument, for the donation of any part of his remains for the use of any nonprofit eye bank or body part bank shall authorize any representative of such organization to take the necessary action to remove and preserve such material within twenty-four hours after the death of the donee, and shall not require the consent of the personal representative of the decedent. After the removal of such material, the remains of the decedent not so removed shall be the responsibility of the person or persons otherwise entitled to control the disposition of the remains of such decedent.

Direction in
writing to be
sufficient author-
ity for organiza-
tional represen-
tative to remove
and preserve
the material.

APPROVED—The 30th day of November, A. D. 1959.

DAVID L. LAWRENCE