

No. 227, A.]

[Published June 27, 1913.

CHAPTER 570.

AN ACT to create section 4431b of the statutes, and to define and punish fee-splitting by physicians and surgeons.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. There is added to the statutes a new section to read: Section 4431b. 1. Any physician or surgeon who shall claim or demand and collect and receive any money or other thing of value as compensation for his professional services in treating or operating upon a patient who was induced or advised by another physician or surgeon to submit to such treatment or operation, and who shall have previously paid or delivered, or shall thereafter pay or deliver, any money or other consideration to such other physician or surgeon or his agent, as compensation for such inducement or advice, or as compensation for assistance in the case, shall be guilty of a criminal fraud and upon a conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months. Such conviction shall operate also as an annulment of the license held by the convicted person to practice as such physician or surgeon.

2. Any physician or surgeon, not a citizen of Wisconsin, who shall in any adjoining state treat or operate upon a citizen of Wisconsin, and who shall have previously paid or delivered, or shall thereafter pay or deliver, any money or other thing of value to another physician or surgeon as compensation for inducing or advising such patient to submit to such treatment or operation, or as compensation for assistance in the case, is forbidden to practice medicine or surgery within this state or to participate in this state with other physicians and surgeons in consultations. Every violation of this subsection shall be a misdemeanor punishable by a fine or by imprisonment as prescribed in subsection one.

3. All prosecutions under this section shall be in the circuit court.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect when published.

Approved June 25, 1913.