

**RECOVERY OF DROWNED BODIES**  
**Act 139 of 1947**

AN ACT to prescribe the powers and duties of certain public officers with respect to the recovery of the bodies of persons drowned in the waters over which the state of Michigan has jurisdiction.

**History:** 1947, Act 139, Eff. Oct. 11, 1947.

*The People of the State of Michigan enact:*

**51.301 Recovery of drowned bodies; jurisdiction of police chiefs and sheriffs, duties, expenses.**

Sec. 1. In case any person is drowned in waters within the corporate limits of any city, it shall be the duty of the chief of police of said city, and in case any person is drowned in waters outside the corporate limits of a city, it shall be the duty of the sheriff of the county within which such waters are situated, to use every available means in the recovery of any such body. The several chiefs of police of cities and sheriffs of this state are hereby authorized to incur such expenses as shall be necessary in obtaining equipment and in doing the necessary acts in carrying out their duties under the provisions of this act.

**History:** 1947, Act 139, Eff. Oct. 11, 1947;—CL 1948, 51.301.

**51.302 Recovery of bodies of drowned persons; assistance from other public agencies; jurisdiction.**

Sec. 2. A chief of police of a city or a sheriff of a county, in the recovery of the body of a person drowned in the waters under the jurisdiction of the chief of police or sheriff, may call upon the Michigan state police, conservation officers of the department of natural resources, the chief of police of another city, the sheriff of another county, or other public agencies for assistance in the recovery of the body; and that chief of police or sheriff may exercise authority and powers outside his or her own jurisdiction in rendering assistance.

**History:** 1947, Act 139, Eff. Oct. 11, 1947;—CL 1948, 51.302;—Am. 1984, Act 57, Imd. Eff. Apr. 12, 1984.