

**MASONIC LODGES (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 145 of 1865**

**457.203 Filing copy of articles and charter with department of commerce; signers of articles, associates, and successors as body politic and corporate.**

Sec. 3.

A copy of said articles of association, together with a copy of the charter of the lodge or chapter, of which the persons executing said articles are members, or in case a lodge and chapter are to be incorporated together, a copy of the charters of both such lodge and chapter of which such persons are members of 1 or both, shall be filed with the corporation and securities bureau of the department of commerce and thereupon the persons who shall have signed said articles of association, their associates and successors, shall be a body politic and corporate, by the name expressed in such articles of association; and by that name they and their successors shall have succession, and shall be persons in the law, capable of suing and being sued, and they and their successors may have a common seal, and the same may change and alter at pleasure; and a certified copy of the record of such articles of association, under the corporation and securities bureau of the department of commerce, shall be received as prima facie evidence in all courts in this state of the existence and due incorporation of such corporation.

**History:** 1865, Act 145, Imd. Eff. Mar. 10, 1865 ;-- Am. 1867, Act 141, Imd. Eff. Mar. 27, 1867 ;-- CL 1871, 3219 ;-- How. 4474 ;-- CL 1897, 7963 ;-- CL 1915, 10400 ;-- CL 1929, 10601 ;-- CL 1948, 457.203 ;-- Am. 1982, Act 94, Imd. Eff. Apr. 19, 1982