

HB 1911 -- Disposition of Human Fetuses

Sponsor or Co-Sponsors: Selby, Dempsey, Luetkenhaus, Dolan,  
Bearden, Neager, Reid

Similar to: HB 1606 Year: 2002

Emergency Clause: or Effective Date of:

Use Summary For: Version:, Year:,

Verbatim:

Modify above as follows:

New summary as follows: This bill establishes the Disposition of  
Human Fetuses Act.

The bill:

(1) Contains definitions for "final disposition" and "remains of  
a human fetus";

(2) Requires that the mother of the dead human fetus determine  
the final disposition of the remains of the fetus in every  
instance of fetal death. The mother is allowed to choose any  
means of final disposition authorized by law or by the Director  
of the Department of Health and Senior Services;

(3) Authorizes the final disposition of human fetal remains by  
cremation, burial, incineration in an approved medical waste  
incinerator, or other means approved by the director. The  
disposition must be consistent with state law or administrative  
rules. If the disposition occurs by incineration, the remains

must be incinerated separately from medical waste;

(4) Does not require a religious service or ceremony to be held;

(5) Requires licensed hospitals and other licensed health care facilities to adopt written standards for the disposition of human fetal remains. Licensed health care facilities are required to provide the mother a copy of their written standards;

(6) Requires licensed hospitals or other licensed health care facilities to notify the mother within a 24-hour period of her right to determine the final disposition and the methods of final disposition of the fetal remains as contained in the bill. The 24-hour notification is required if a miscarriage occurs at the facility;

(7) Requires the licensed health care facility to provide on-site counseling services to the mother or refer the mother to an appropriate provider of counseling services concerning the death of the fetus; and

(8) Requires that persons who violate provisions of the bill are guilty of a class C misdemeanor.