

HB 914 -- Disposition of Human Fetal Remains

Sponsor: Portwood

This bill contains provisions pertaining to the disposition of human fetal remains. The bill:

- (1) Requires that a pregnant woman have the option of treating the remains of a fetal death in the same manner as the remains of a deceased person in accordance with state law;
- (2) Requires treating physicians to inform a pregnant woman of her rights regarding the disposition of human fetal remains if she proceeds with an abortion;
- (3) Requires health care providers, upon a timely request of a pregnant woman, to release to the woman or her designee the remains of a fetal death for final disposition in accordance with state law. If no timely request is made, health care providers are not required to maintain or preserve the human fetal remains;
- (4) Allows a health care provider to conduct or acquire medical tests on the human fetal remains prior to release of the remains;
- (5) Allows health care providers to require a release of liability prior to the release of human fetal remains; and
- (6) Exempts health care providers from civil and criminal liability, suit, or sanction with regard to any action taken in good faith compliance with the bill.