

Updated 3.6.20. Sub 4 Passed by both chambers.

S.B. 67 Disposition of Fetal Remains

Senate Sponsor: Curtis Bramble House Sponsor: Karianne Lisonbee

What does the bill do?

- Requires health care facilities who care for patients experiencing miscarriage or abortion to dispose of fetal remains through burial or cremation.
- Requires health care providers to inform patients experiencing miscarriage or abortion that they have the right to bury or cremate fetal remains through a form, an in-person consultation with a physician, or an in-person consultation with a therapist.
- Prohibits health care facilities from disposing of fetal tissue with other biological waste.
- Requires a health care facility to allow a woman who has a medication-induced abortion to return the aborted fetus to the health care facility for disposition.
- If a minor has an abortion, they must have parental consent regarding their decision for final disposition.

Talking Points

- This intrusive legislation interferes in a deeply personal, often complex, experience. People experiencing miscarriage or abortion should be able to make medical decisions in accordance with their family, faith, and doctor -- not according to politicians misguided interference in the exam room.
- There is nothing in current state law preventing patients from requesting to bury or cremate fetal remains. This law seeks to solve a problem that does not exist. If any improvements need to be made, it is provider awareness -- not a flaw in the system.
- We do not need to create more laws to fix a problem that does not exist. Instead of intrusive mandates that threaten access to health care, lawmakers need to focus on respecting personal medical decisions and pass laws that actually support women, children, and families.
- Health care providers should not be forced to comply with medically unnecessary requirements, or bills drafted solely to undermine their ability to operate.
- At Planned Parenthood, our patients always come first, and we respect all people seeking health care. We ensure the disposal of embryonic and fetal tissue is done safely, respectfully, and according to state law. We talk with patients on a case-by-case basis to answer all of their questions about how fetal tissue is handled.

