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Testimony on  
Senate Bill No. 298

*An Act Concerning Burial and Cremation  
in Cases of Spontaneous Fetal Demise*

Before the Public Health Committee  
March 19, 2018

The Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference, the public policy office for Connecticut's Catholic Bishops, supports Senate Bill 298, *An Act Concerning Burial and Cremation in Cases of Spontaneous Fetal Demise*.

Since its beginnings, the Catholic Church has exalted the role of motherhood and has recognized the strength of women through the joys and disappointments that this role can entail. Therefore, we support Senate Bill 298, as it helps women in a time of mental and physical anguish, when they are likely not focused on the legalities of their situation.

Senate Bill 298 proposes a uniform procedure for all hospitals that will help bring closure to a woman who has just lost a child and aid in her emotional healing. This is a simple, pragmatic solution that prevents confusion and that provides dignity and compassion to the woman and her stillborn baby in a time of crisis. This legislation provides time for the necessary reflection by a woman on her right to arrange for the burial or cremation of her unborn child.

The Connecticut Catholic Public Affairs Conference strongly urges the Children's Committee to pass this impactful and meaningful legislation.

Michael C. Culhane  
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