

To the Public Health Committee,

It has come to my attention that there will be consideration given for legislation in favor of allowing parents to provide a proper burial or cremation in the situation of miscarriages. I am very much in favor of such legislation.

As a parent of two miscarried children, it gave me much consolation to be able to bury my children. My children are at a grave site where I can visit. It continues to give me consolation to visit the grave site of the children I lost. I could not have healed as fully as I have if I wasn't able to bury my children. It is not typical for parents to have this consolation. The body of their baby usually becomes the property of the hospital once outside of the womb. Why is that? Every other human being has the right to a proper burial, but not our sweetest little ones? It is emotionally damaging to have the body of a child displaced. It is not proper to withhold the body of children for burial, no matter how small or how far along in development that child is.

I hope and pray that this neglect towards parents and children will be corrected. There are some hospitals that will at least bury whatever remains of the child that are left after an autopsy. In some hospitals, whether or not they do an autopsy depends on the wishes of the parents. I am hoping that this also will be available for all parents at all hospitals in the state of CT.

Thank you for considering and hearing my concerns.

Laura Hayes