
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6507

AN ACT CONCERNING MATERNAL CHOICE IN THE EVENT OF STILLBIRTH.

SUMMARY

This bill gives the mother of a fetus that died after a gestation period of 20 weeks or more (i.e., stillborn fetus) the right to arrange for the stillborn fetus's burial or cremation.

The bill requires the hospital to give the mother written notification of her right to make these arrangements at the following times:

1. upon admission, when practicable, if she is expected to deliver a stillborn fetus or
2. within 24 hours after admission, if notifying her upon admission is not practicable or she was not expected to deliver a stillborn fetus when admitted.

It also requires a mother who wishes to arrange for burial or cremation of the fetus to (1) make the election in writing and (2) deliver it to the hospital within 72 hours after discharge from the hospital.

The bill allows a mother who chooses not to arrange for burial or cremation to elect to be notified by the hospital of the manner of the final disposition of the stillborn fetus's remains.

Lastly, the bill requires the Department of Public Health to prescribe the forms to be used for the notices and elections.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2021

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 14 Nay 0 (03/15/2021)