



Joe Uecker
14th District

Ohio Senate

Senate Building
Room 226, Second Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-8082
Uecker@ohiosenate.gov

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Sponsor Testimony
State Senator Joseph Uecker
Senate Bill 28
House Health Committee
January 31, 2018

Thank you Chairman Huffman, Vice Chairwoman Gavarone, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the House Health Committee for the opportunity to speak on behalf of Senate Bill 28.

Senate Bill 28 simply seeks to honor the unborn by ensuring procedures are in place to properly dispose of aborted baby remains.

In September 2015 it was brought to my attention that the Ohio Revised Code does not contain procedures regarding the disposal of aborted infant remains. In fact, most states lack such policies.

Senate Bill 28 states that any ambulatory surgical facility in which abortion is legally provided can only dispose of aborted remains through the use of cremation or interment and grants the mother the right to determine the final disposition of the remains. The facility is responsible for the cost of the disposal. If the woman does not determine a method of disposal the facility will make the determination.

The bill also requires the Director of Health to adopt rules necessary to carry out the bill's provision including final disposition forms and parental consent forms.

Records regarding the patient are not public. However, the Department of Health will maintain the records of the disposal option and, if applicable, parental consent to the determination.

Please join me in protecting the dignity of human life. Thank you for your consideration. I am happy to answer any questions.