



TO: Health and Human Services Committee
FROM: Marion Miner, Associate Director of Pro-Life & Family Policy
Nebraska Catholic Conference
DATE: March 6, 2025
RE: LB632 (Require Humane Disposition of Fetal Remains) (Support)

The Nebraska Catholic Conference advocates for the public policy interests of the Catholic Church and advances the Gospel of Life through engaging, educating, and empowering public officials, Catholic laity, and the general public.

The Conference supports LB632, which would require that a licensed health care facility that performs an elective abortion make provision for the burial or cremation of the aborted child's remains.

Nebraska law since 2003 has already required that every hospital in the state have a written policy for the humane disposition of the remains of any child, of any gestation, who dies in utero or after birth, including in cases where the parents decide not to make private arrangements for the baby's burial.¹ The only exception to this requirement is for children who die by *elective abortion*. Where a child has died by elective abortion, there is no provision in Nebraska law that imposes any duty on a health care facility for the disposition of the child's body.²

Abortion facilities are the only licensed entities in the state, to our knowledge, that perform elective abortions. What they presently do with the body parts of dead unborn children in Nebraska is anyone's guess and, in the eyes of the law as it currently exists, doesn't matter. It should matter.

We do know what abortion businesses across the United States oftentimes do with the body parts of these children, and it is disturbing. One abortion business that makes appearances in the list below has locations in Nebraska.

- In 2012, abortion facilities in Texas were cited for contracting with a “medical waste” company to dump aborted bodies in common landfills.³
- In 2014, public officials in Oregon demanded that an incinerator immediately stop burning medical waste *to produce energy for residential use* after it was found that the

¹ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-20,121.

² The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy has a guidance document for how to deal with “medical waste” generally. It provides little guidance other than to suggest that non-infectious “medical waste” may be deposited in a landfill and that infectious “medical waste” should be made non-infectious—and then may be deposited in a landfill. <https://dee.nebraska.gov/sites/default/files/publications/06-225%20Medical%20Waste%20Disposal%202021.pdf>

³ <https://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local/article/2-texas-abortion-clinics-fined-for-fetus-disposal-3305551.php>

bodies and body parts of aborted children were being mixed in with the material for burning.⁴

- In 2014, abortion facility directors at an “industry conference” in San Francisco spoke openly of using the garbage disposal and drains to dispose of babies’ body parts and of storing body parts or whole bodies in freezers for months.⁵
- In 2019, officials found the preserved remains of more than 2,400 aborted babies in the garage of deceased abortionist Ulrich Klopfer in Illinois.⁶
- Kansas abortionist George Tiller was known to personally burn the babies he aborted via a personal crematorium he kept in his own facility.⁷
- Philadelphia abortionist Kermit Gosnell, now in federal prison for various felonies, was discovered to be keeping baby body parts in jars and freezers on location in his facility.⁸

Finally, medical waste disposal companies such as Stericycle, which specialize in human tissue disposal for abortion facilities, have been found at various times to have engaged in disturbing and illegal disposal of aborted remains.

- In 2014, Stericycle agreed to pay a \$2.3 million settlement to the State of Utah for emissions violations in its disposal practices.⁹
- In 2015, Stericycle was fined \$72,000 in Washington state for illegal disposal that could “potentially leech into groundwater.”¹⁰

Additional examples are available. There are many. LB632 is a simple, direct, and uncomplicated solution to this atrocity.

It must be emphasized that LB632 places no obligations on the parents of the aborted child and requires no conversation about the matter with the woman who has undergone the abortion. Neither does the bill place any duties on mortuaries, funeral homes, or cemeteries. Abortions completed at home are not within the scope of this bill. Miscarriages, unhelpfully but commonly coded in hospitals as “spontaneous abortions,” are not “elective” and are also not within the scope of this bill.

The bill impacts and regulates only one actor—the licensed facility where an elective abortion takes place. These facilities do not deserve to be trusted that they are treating unborn children—whose lives they have already destroyed—with dignity or that their practices are even safe and sanitary. The industry’s long and continuous history shows very clearly that it needs to be told

⁴ <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/fetal-tissue-used-generate-electricity-oregon-n88716>

⁵ <https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/26/video-mich-abortion-clinic-director-recorded-covertly/74658186/>; see also <https://www.liveaction.org/news/abortion-facility-owner-says-5-months-worth-of-aborted-babies-were-stored-in-freezers/>

⁶ <https://www.indystar.com/story/news/local/indianapolis/2020/12/30/ulrich-klopfer-investigation-into-doctor-fetal-remains-ends/4085822001/>

⁷ Luhra Tyvis, “Where is the Real Violence?” *Celebrate Life*. Sept/Oct 1994.

⁸ <https://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/local/gosnell-murder-deliberations-stretch-into-10th-day/2143888/>

⁹ <https://www.kuer.org/energy-environment/2014-12-01/stericycle-agrees-to-2-3-million-fine-to-settle-emissions-violations-in-utah#stream/0>

¹⁰ Stericycle Fined \$72,000 for Pharmaceutical Waste Handling, Department of Ecology, State of Washington, June 1, 2015, <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2015/072.html>

very specifically what it may and may not do, or it will simply do what is cheapest and most convenient for itself.

The Conference respectfully urges you to advance LB632 to General File. Thank you for your time and consideration.