



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senator André Jacque and Representative Janel Brandtjen Introduce the Human Dignity Act

Madison, WI- Senator André Jacque (R – De Pere) and Representative Janel Brandtjen (R – Menomonee Falls) announced the introduction of the Human Dignity Act which aims to stop the sale, trafficking, and experimentation of the body parts of aborted children. UW officials who sought to open a late-term abortion clinic at the UW Surgery Center publicly cited the potential for induced abortions at the facility to serve as a supply of fetal body parts for UW experimentation, and the UW has received aborted children's tissue directly from Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, at least as recently as 2011. The US Department of Health and Human Services' National Institutes of Health (NIH) banned the use of aborted fetal tissue in research by its scientists earlier this year, and several distinguished researchers, including from the Medical College of Wisconsin, have stated that the Human Dignity Act will do nothing to stifle legitimate research.

"Respect for human dignity is essential in scientific research, a point which has been underscored by horrific past failures. Aborted children clearly do not consent to their own destruction," Senator Jacque said.

"Using children for experimentation is a grizzly, and antiquated research process, one that puts experimentation over the right to live. Within the last one hundred years of experiments, using children's bodies has only further devalued human life. We have to ask ourselves at what point do we hold these irresponsible experiments accountable," Representative Brandtjen said.

The Human Dignity Act also requires whenever possible the determination and recording of the gender of a child who has been aborted, along with any known disabilities. Using this data, Wisconsinites can better understand the scale of who is being aborted and what gender or disabilities are being most discriminated against.

"As a woman and mother, the idea of babies being slaughtered in the womb based solely on their gender is sickening. It is past time we get a full understanding on how gender-targeting plays into abortion and the inhumane mutilation of bodies," Representative Brandtjen said.

"As a father of five, it's heartbreaking to imagine parents killing an unborn child just because they have a disability out of their control. Everyone has a right to life," Senator Jacque continued.

The bill also requires certain standards for the respectful disposition of an aborted child's remains through either burial or cremation, as the present lack of standards allows for disposal as trash or medical waste.

Senator Jacque and Representative Brandtjen are currently circulating LRB 3824 for co-sponsors, with a deadline of Wednesday, September 18th.