

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 555

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the unlawful disposal of fetal remains, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 28, 2021

Mr. LATTA (for himself, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. BABIN, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. CARL, Mr. BANKS, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. GUEST, Mr. WALTZ, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. DAVIDSON, Ms. HERRELL, and Mr. JACKSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the unlawful disposal of fetal remains, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Protecting the Dignity
5 of Unborn Children Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITING UNLAWFUL DISPOSAL OF FETAL RE-**
2 **MAINS.**

3 Part I of title 18, United States Code, is amended
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 **“CHAPTER 125—UNLAWFUL DISPOSAL OF**
6 **FETAL REMAINS**

7 **“SEC. 2741. UNLAWFUL DISPOSAL OF FETAL REMAINS.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Whoever recklessly disposes of
9 or abandons fetal remains in a landfill or in any of the
10 navigable waters of the United States shall be imprisoned
11 not more than 3 years or fined under this title, or both.

12 “(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
13 tion shall be construed to authorize the prosecution of any
14 woman for the disposal of the remains of her unborn child.

15 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 “(1) FETAL REMAINS.—The term ‘fetal re-
17 mains’ means any part of a human fetus that is de-
18 ceased by reason of an abortion, but does not in-
19 clude any such part that has been cremated.

20 “(2) LANDFILL.—The term ‘landfill’ means a
21 sanitary landfill, as such term is defined in section
22 1004(26) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act.

23 “(3) NAVIGABLE WATERS.—The term ‘navi-
24 gable waters’ has the meaning given such term in

1 section 502(7) of the Federal Water Pollution Con-
2 trol Act.”.

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