

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 645 (SB 73)

2018 Regular Session

Gatti

Prior law prohibited the cutting, resection, excision, harvesting, removal, sale, receipt, research, commerce, or transport of fetal organs, tissues, and body parts under circumstances defined by prior law. Prior law provided penalties for violations of prior law. New law retains prior law.

New law provides that the district attorney of the parish where a violation of prior law occurs and the attorney general have concurrent authority to collect evidence, investigate, and institute criminal proceedings for any violation of prior law.

New law creates the Fetal Organ Whistleblower Account in the state treasury. Requires that the account be composed of any monies derived from appropriations by the legislature and any gift, grant, devise, donation, or bequest of monies or properties of any nature or description.

New law provides that an award of \$1,000 is to be paid out of the Fetal Organ Whistleblower Account to any person who provides evidence that results in the arrest and indictment of any other person for a violation of law relative to fetal organs, tissues, and body parts. Provides that eligibility for an award is to be determined by the district attorney or the attorney general, as appropriate.

New law provides that all monies deposited in the Fetal Organ Whistleblower Account are to be used solely to pay awards to persons as provided by law and are to be paid by the state treasurer upon written order signed by the district attorney or the attorney general, as appropriate. Provides that monies deposited in the Fetal Organ Whistleblower Account may be used to pay reasonable costs of administering the account.

New law requires that the name and other identifying information of any person who is paid an award from the account remain confidential.

Effective upon signature of the governor (June 1, 2018).

(Adds R.S. 14:87.3(F))