

**ACT No. 628**

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 539

BY REPRESENTATIVE HAZEL

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 9:1551(F), relative to the training of dogs; to authorize the donation of tissue and biological samples for training a dog to search for human remains; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 9:1551(F) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1551. Disposition of remains

\* \* \*

F.(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the coroner may donate tissue or biological samples to an individual who is affiliated with an established search and rescue dog organization for the purpose of training a dog to search for human remains. Any request for biological sample donation shall be made to the coroner on the letterhead of the requesting organization and signed by the director, manager, or individual overseeing the rescue dog training program. Donations of tissue or biological samples shall not be more than twenty-eight grams per tissue type.

(2) For purposes of this Subsection, a person shall be deemed affiliated with an established search and rescue dog organization if he presents to the coroner a signed letter from his director, manager, or other supervisor authorizing the request for biological samples.

1           Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
2 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
3 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
4 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
5 effective on the day following such approval.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_