

Bill Summary
2nd Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 1859
Version:	FS1
Request No.:	4001
Author:	Sen. Scott
Date:	03/10/2020

Floor Substitute (FS)

The FS for SB 1859 amends language in the Heartbeat Informed Consent Act that currently requires an abortion provider to inform a woman who is at least 8 weeks pregnant that it may be possible to make the fetal heartbeat audible. The measure amends the language to cover women who are 6 weeks pregnant instead of 8 weeks pregnant and prohibits abortions after the heartbeat is audible. It also broadens the law to include fetal brain function, requiring the provider to verify the presence or absence of fetal brain function and prohibiting abortions if brain function is detected using the provider's good faith understanding of standard medical practice. Any physician who violates the provisions of the measure shall be deemed to have engaged in unprofessional conduct and shall be subject to licensure revocation.

Prepared by: Kalen Taylor