

House Bill 4019

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Health Care)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Designates second week of April of each year as Organ, Eye and Tissue Donor Appreciation Week.

Creates Oregon Gifts of Life Award for families of organ donors. Directs office of Governor to present awards and to coordinate with organ procurement organizations in selecting recipients.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to organ donations; and declaring an emergency.

2 Whereas more than 117,000 people in the United States are in need of a lifesaving organ trans-
3 plant, and another person is added to the waiting list every 10 minutes; and

4 Whereas 22 Americans die each day while waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant; and

5 Whereas a single organ, eye or tissue donor can save and heal more than 75 individuals; and

6 Whereas 83 organ donors from Oregon gave more than 250 transplanted organs in 2016; and

7 Whereas 2,291 tissue and cornea donations from Oregon were distributed to 80,353 people in
8 2016; and

9 Whereas one in four persons who died and were eligible to be a donor could have donated their
10 corneas; and

11 Whereas cancer victims and some individuals who are blind can donate their corneas when they
12 die; and

13 Whereas a transplant can be used to treat a burn victim, save the life of a newborn with a
14 congenital heart defect or replace tumorous bones; and

15 Whereas the need for organ, eye and tissue transplants far exceeds donations and does not dis-
16 criminate by any demographic characteristic or ideological conviction; and

17 Whereas public education about organ, eye and tissue donations is crucial because more than
18 800 people in Oregon await an organ transplant, and hundreds more await a tissue or cornea
19 transplant; and

20 Whereas the State of Oregon, through the Department of Transportation, has a decades-long
21 relationship with designated organ procurement organizations in which the department invites
22 Oregonians to join the anatomical donor registry and have a "D" placed on their driver license or
23 identification card; and

24 Whereas the Legislative Assembly encourages partnership between the Department of Trans-
25 portation and organ procurement organizations to educate the public about the need for partic-
26 ipation in the donor registry, resulting in more lives saved, sight given and lives improved; and

27 Whereas the Legislative Assembly recognizes and appreciates the gifts of life from those
28 Oregonians who choose to donate after their death; now, therefore,
29

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

2 **SECTION 1. The second week of April of each year is designated as Organ, Eye and Tis-**
3 **sue Donor Appreciation Week.**

4 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:**

5 (a) **“Organ donor” means an individual whose organ, eye or tissue is the subject of an**
6 **anatomical gift pursuant to ORS 97.951 to 97.982.**

7 (b) **“Organ procurement organization” has the meaning given that term in ORS 97.953.**

8 (2) **The office of the Governor shall present the Oregon Gifts of Life Award on an annual**
9 **basis to families of organ donors.**

10 (3) **Organ procurement organizations may nominate individuals eligible under this section**
11 **to represent organ donors from the previous calendar year and may submit documentation**
12 **supporting the eligibility of the individuals to the office of the Governor. If more than one**
13 **organ procurement organization is involved, the organ procurement organizations shall co-**
14 **ordinate to designate by consensus the organ procurement organization that will have pri-**
15 **mary administrative responsibility under this section.**

16 (4) **The office of the Governor shall select recipients for the Oregon Gifts of Life Award**
17 **in coordination with organ procurement organizations from a list of nominations prepared**
18 **under subsection (3) of this section.**

19 (5) **Only one award may be presented to the family of each organ donor.**

20 (6) **Organ procurement organizations shall seek permission from the family of each organ**
21 **donor selected to receive the Oregon Gifts of Life Award to release the name of the organ**
22 **donor to the office of the Governor for the purpose of printing an award certificate and for**
23 **use at ceremonies or events.**

24 **SECTION 3. This 2018 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
25 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2018 Act takes effect**
26 **on its passage.**

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