



Governor’s Organ Donation Advisory Committee Minutes

Emergency Meeting Called by Deb Simaitis
DATE 11.23.2021 | WebEx Meeting ID 2461 359 9232



Note Taker (s):	Virginia Beatty
Voting Members:	Deb Simaitis, Peter Nicasastro, Jan Finn, Virginia Beatty
Pending Confirmation Members:	Lori Kramer-Clark, Mary Ann Burns, Kevin Lee
DHSS Staff:	Sandy Hentges, Daniel Bogle
Called to order:	Vice-Chair Deb Simaitis called the meeting to order at 11:32 am and announced a quorum.

2022 Organ Donation Legislative Proposal Language

Ms. Simaitis announced the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the legislative proposal mentioned at the September 24, 2021 meeting. The Department put together a proposal to update terms and remove fund restrictions. Since members wanted to provide both individual and corporate feedback, the meeting was called to discuss the proposal as a group. The proposed language went out in email. Ms. Simaitis turned the meeting over to Mr. Bogle to explain the changes, reasons for the changes, and next steps.

Mr. Bogle, Special Projects Coordinator of the Division of Community and Public Health, introduced himself and explained the state agency legislative approval process. The proposal, developed by the Department, received approval by Department management and tentative approval by the Governor’s office. Each year the Department is usually limited to five to ten proposals. The Governor’s office reviews and either approves, denies, or holds the proposals. The Governor’s office and the Department highly value the expertise and passion of the committee and want to make sure the committee is a part of the process including recommendation for a sponsor or sponsors.

While language changes are unlikely at this stage in the process, changes can occur any time during the legislative process. Mr. Bogle indicated he would take Committee edits and recommendations forward. Discussion continued. Mr. Bogle is taking forward the following Committee recommendations:

- Section 194.297.6. The Committee prefers the original language.
- Section 194.210.2 (16). Ms. Finn pointed out that organ procurement organizations are not people and therefore a term other than “A person” is needed, even though it was not part of the original proposed changes.
- Mr. Nicasastro will send out the grammatical edits he noted during his review.

Discussion on bill sponsorship ensued. Committee members discussed Representative J. Eggleston (living donor), the Speaker of the House Representative Rob Vescovo (recipient family), and Representative Wayne Wallingford as potential sponsors. Representative Wayne Wallingford, a kidney recipient, is supportive of organ and tissue donation educational efforts in his District. Committee members would like to see the bill filed in both chambers. No specific recommendation on a Senate sponsor was provided. Senator Barbara Washington was mentioned as a possible sponsor because of her ability to work with people across parties. Committee members believe this is important to achieve success and are receptive to the Department approaching her as a sponsor. Mr. Lee brought to the Committee’s attention that in the past, Senator Jill Schupp expressed concerns about organ, eye and tissue donation education for high school students. He does not know her position today. Ms. Burns and Ms. Kramer-Clark were in agreement with other member’s points of view and recommendations. Ms. Burns was glad to hear the Department is working to remove the language “cadaver” from the Uniformed Anatomical Gift Act.

Once the legislative proposal becomes an official bill, the Committee will review the final language and take up formal support considerations at the January 28, 2022 meeting. Committee members expressed their gratitude for being included in the discussion and process. Mr. Bogle thanked them for their insight and expertise.

Conclusion: Informational and Actionable

Action Items:	Person Responsible:	Deadline:
Submit Committee recommendations	Mr. Bogle	November 30, 2021
Submit grammar edits	Mr. Nicasastro	ASAP
Draft minutes and add topic to January agenda	Ms. Beatty	January, 2022

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at Noon
Deb Simaitis, Vice Chairperson

Approved 2.28.2022 Meeting