

WISCONSIN STATE
LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

2003-04

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on
Public Health
(AC-PH)

(Form Updated: 11/20/2008)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

**

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

**

➤ Public Hearings ... PH

**

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

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INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE
FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL ...

➤ Appointments ... Appt

**

Name:

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

**

➤ Hearing Records ... HR (bills and resolutions)

****03hr_ab0477_AC-PH_pt01**

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

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Vote Record Committee on Public Health

Date: 9/10/03

Moved by: Freese

Seconded by: Underheim

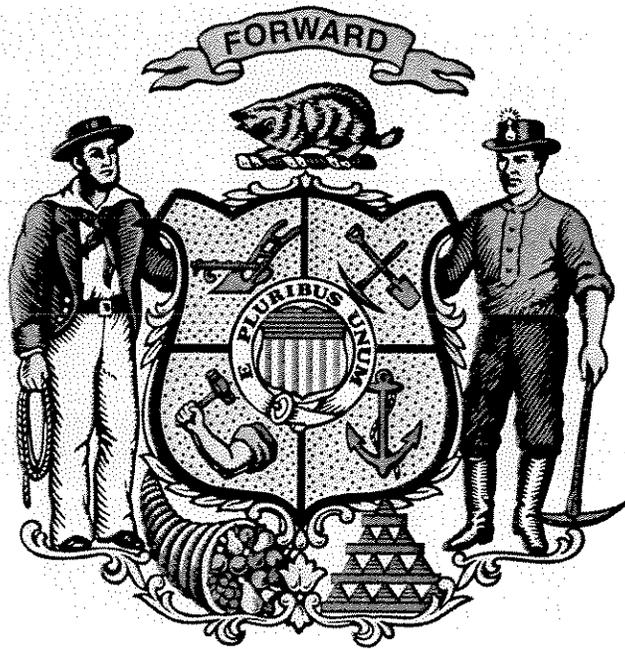
AB 477 SB _____ Clearinghouse Rule _____
 AJR _____ SJR _____ Appointment _____
 AR _____ SR _____ Other _____

A/S Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____
 A/S Sub Amdt _____
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Be recommended for:
 Passage Adoption Confirmation Concurrence Indefinite Postponement
 Introduction Rejection Tabling Nonconcurrency

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
Representative J.A. Hines, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative DuWayne Johnsrud	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Gregg Underheim	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Stephen Freese	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Terri McCormick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Sheldon Wasserman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Johnnie Morris	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Representative Marlin Schneider	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Motion Carried Motion Failed



MEMO

August 19, 2003

Carolyn Hughes
Committee Clerk
Assembly Committee on Public Health

RE: Public Hearing – August 27, 2003

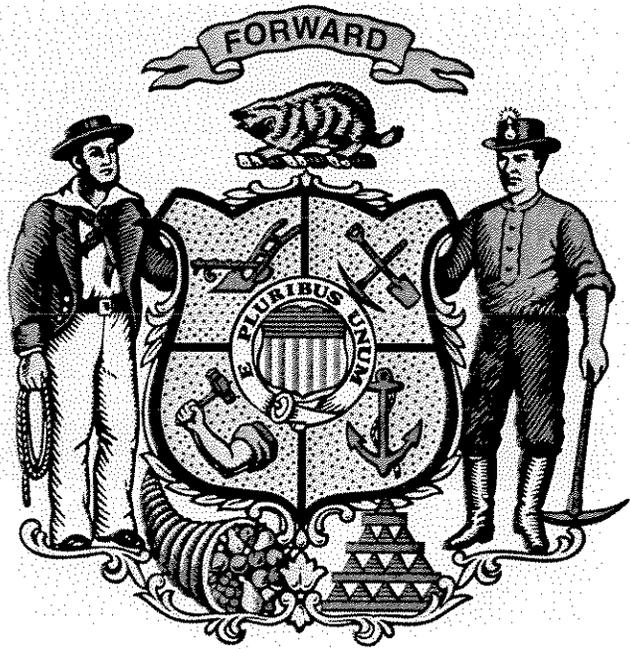
Dear Ms. Hughes:

This is a formal follow up to a voice message that I left for you yesterday. As I stated, Rep. Johnnie Morris is going to be away from her district attending a conference on the date of the public hearing. She has a keen interest in **LRB 2108/2** and is hereby asking the Committee Chair to consider re-scheduling the public hearing. In the event that the hearing cannot be re-scheduled, a consideration of holding an Executive Session on a later date would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please call 6-3757 with feedback.

Sincerely,

Madu Enwemnwa
Office of Rep. Johnnie E. Morris





WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

*Terry C. Anderson, Director
Laura D. Rose, Deputy Director*

TO: REPRESENTATIVE J.A. HINES
FROM: ^{RNS} Richard Sweet, Senior Staff Attorney
RE: Involvement of Family Members in Making Anatomical Gifts
DATE: August 20, 2003

This memorandum responds to your question of whether a family member of a deceased person may object to an anatomical gift by the deceased person under the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act in s. 157.06, Stats.

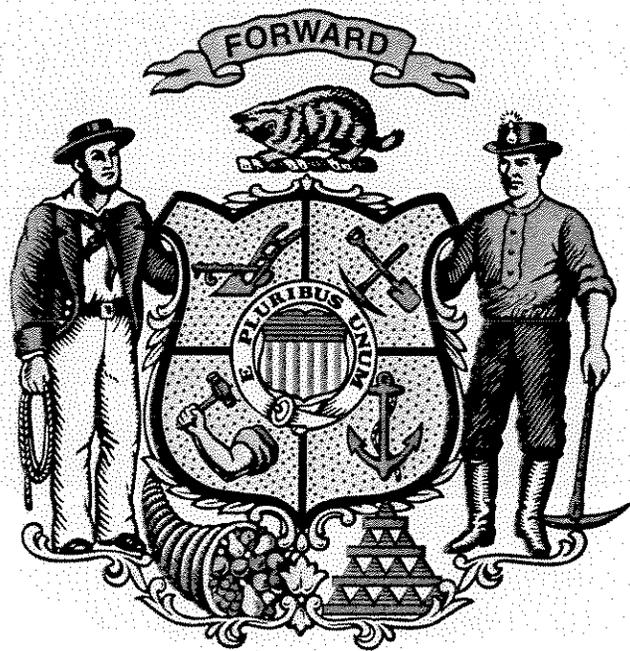
Under the statutes, a person who is at least 18 years of age may make an anatomical gift by signing a document of gift (e.g., an organ donor card or the reverse side of a driver's license). Section 157.06 (2) (h), Stats., states that such an anatomical gift does not require the concurrence of another person and is irrevocable after the donor's death. That provision states as follows:

157.06 (2) (h) An anatomical gift that is not revoked by the donor before death is irrevocable and does not require the consent or concurrence of any person after the donor's death.

In addition, the statutes allow family members and certain other specified individuals to make an anatomical gift of all or part of a deceased person's body. This situation might arise where a deceased person had not signed a document of gift during his or her lifetime and also had not signed a refusal to make an anatomical gift. Under the statutes, any member of the following class of persons, in the order of priority listed, may make an anatomical gift of all or part of a deceased person's body: (1) spouse; (2) adult son or daughter; (3) parent; (4) adult brother or sister; (5) grandparent; (6) guardian of the person at the time of death; or (7) a health care agent under a power of attorney for health care at the time of death. Such an anatomical gift may not be made if any of the following applies: (1) a person in a prior class is available at the time of death and that person objects to the anatomical gift; (2) the person proposing to make the anatomical gift knows of a refusal or contrary indications by the deceased person; or (3) the person proposing to make the anatomical gift knows of an objection to make the gift by a member of the person's class or a prior class.

Feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

RNS:tlu:wu;jal



TESTIMONY OF DR. HANS SOLLINGER, Professor and Chairman of the Division of Transplantation, University of Wisconsin-Madison, to the Assembly Public Health Committee, August 27, 2003

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Assembly Public Health Committee:

My name is Hans W. Sollinger. I am a Professor at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, and I have served over the past 8 years as the Chairman of the Division of Organ Transplantation. From 1996 to 1997 I was President of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, and from 1997 to 1998 I was President of the International Society for Organ Sharing.

I am here today to speak to you in support of legislation that would permit a one-time \$10,000 income tax deduction for live organ donors, to assist them with the expense related to their travel, lodging and lost wages during the organ donation process.

On August 26, 2003, at 11:36 a.m., the total number of patients waiting for a life-saving or life-improving organ transplant in the United States was 82,466. Among these patients, 55,365 were waiting for a kidney transplant. From January 1 to May 2003, however, there were only 2,666 deceased donors available, providing for less than 5,000 kidneys. In fact, living related kidney donation, either from a relative or from another individual, took place in 2,724 instances. In other words, there are now more live donors for kidney transplantation as compared to deceased donors.

During my 23-year tenure at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, I have personally performed close to 2,000 kidney transplants and have been involved in the postoperative care of more than 5,000 patients who have received a kidney transplant. For this reason, I would like to tell you briefly some of the aspects of end-stage renal failure.

Patients who are developing end-stage renal failure very often have very few warning signs. Early on in the disease, they might notice slight swelling of their legs after a long day at work. This is followed by increasing fatigue, which ultimately might result in their inability to perform even simple household chores. And finally, once fluid retention—so-called “edema”—becomes more pronounced, patients typically are being seen by a nephrologist, a specialist in kidney disease. It is very common that at this time in the process of their illness, immediate action has to be taken.

In order to treat the symptoms of end-stage renal failure—a state which is being referred to as “uremia”—patients need to prepare for dialysis treatments. This requires that surgery be performed on the patient’s hands and arms, creating a so-called “vascular shunt.” Unfortunately, in many patients, the native blood vessels are so small that a more extensive surgery—the insertion of a plastic tube in the forearm or upper arm—is required. Once this is accomplished, the patient is ready to be entered into a dialysis program, which requires visiting a dialysis center three times a week for four to six hours.

During the treatment, the patient has to sit in a chair. Many patients sleep; others watch TV or read a book.

Immediately after the dialysis treatment, many patients feel, as they describe it, "washed out." Their blood pressure might be low, they might have a lack of energy, and it is not uncommon that after returning home from dialysis, they have to go to bed and sleep through the night.

Typically in the course of the next day, they start to feel somewhat better. However, you have to remember, they are highly restricted in their fluid intake and their diet. Food containing salts and any fluid measuring more than 2 or 3 quarts are not permitted.

Nevertheless, this first day after dialysis is usually a reasonably good day. However, the next morning the circle starts again—the patient has to return to the dialysis center and undergo a four- to six-hour treatment.

In contrast, a kidney transplant—an operation which lasts somewhere between two and four hours and can be accomplished with minimal morbidity and mortality—can immediately free the patient from the dialysis machine. Not only does the patient enjoy the freedom from these frequent visits to dialysis centers, but the kidney is not only a filter which removes water from the body, the kidney makes hormones which are important for the formation of red blood cells, for the regulation of the calcium and potassium metabolism, for growth hormone, and many other important physiological functions of our body.

Therefore, after kidney transplantation, a general improvement in well-being, energy, appetite, mental sharpness, and increased enjoyment of life sets in within a few weeks after transplantation.

The majority of patients receiving a kidney transplant have returned to a normal life. Patients go back to work, even in jobs as demanding as police officers, physicians, lawyers, and there are even a few legislators who have received transplants.

After kidney transplantation, women can have children. One of my patients in Madison gave birth to three healthy children after a transplant. Patients participate in sports events, as evidenced by the Transplant Olympics.

And most importantly, patients can look forward to not only an enhanced quality of life, but a longer life. A recent study coming from the Scientific Registry in Michigan, a database under contract to the Department of Health and Human Services, clearly demonstrated that kidney transplantation is a life-saving operation. Regardless of patient age, any patient receiving a renal transplant has a better chance of longer survival as compared to a matched patient who has to remain on dialysis.

For these reasons, a patient in kidney failure who happens to be so lucky to have a relative or a friend who is willing to give a kidney is indeed in a much better position than one of the 50,000-plus patients on the waiting list who have to wait between 1 and 10 years before receiving a kidney transplant. If a patient in renal failure has a potential live donor, the transplant can usually take place within a few weeks to a few months.

You might be interested to hear that, particularly in the Midwest, the number of live donors is one of the highest in the world. Americans in this area of the country are selfless and committed to help their relatives and loved ones, even if it means undergoing a serious surgical procedure.

Therefore, it might come as a surprise to you that these individuals are not only asked to make a physical, but very often also a monetary, sacrifice. Let me give you an example which pertains to my patient, Margaret Moore, a 51-year-old lady from Topeka, Kansas. Margaret is the fifth member of a family suffering from polycystic kidney disease who required a kidney transplant. No family live donor was available. However, a co-worker, Dee Dee Weber, working in the same bank, stepped forward and offered to be a kidney donor.

As reported on Monday, November 4, 2002, in the *Topeka Capital Journal*: 'Weber said she would lose a little bit more than weight during the surgery. She won't be allowed to take paid sick days from work for the surgery and recovery, because the bank's insurance company considers this elective surgery. Her husband, Mark, is taking time off to accompany Weber and Moore to Madison for the transplant. Neither Mark or Dee Dee Weber will be able to use vacation time, because that has already been used up trying to legally adopt Mark Weber's grandson, who is in foster care in California. But the Webers say their financial hardship shouldn't be a factor in this decision. "I cannot say, 'Well, sorry, I am not getting paid time off, so you'll just have to die,' Dee Dee Weber said."

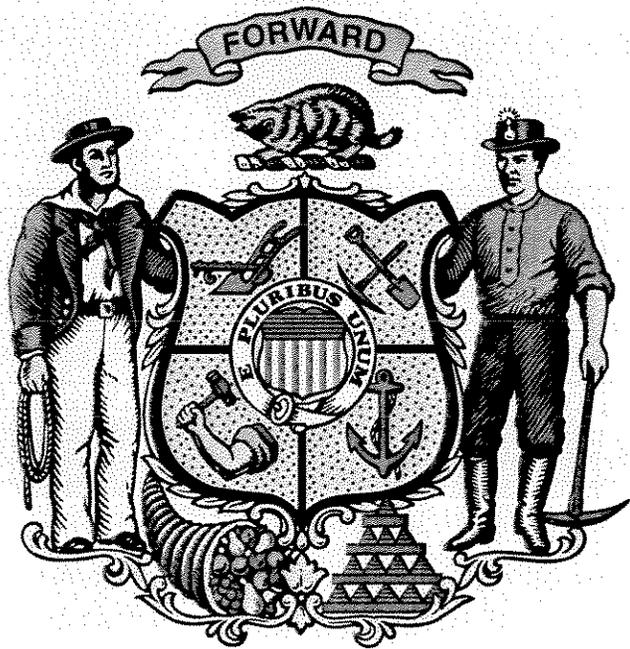
The Webers are not alone. We have surveyed 42 of our live kidney donors. The average out-of-pocket cost for these donors was \$1,454.71. More than 90% of all donors experienced some

out-of-pocket expense. 48% of donors lost wages during their recuperation. Families with low incomes have difficulty meeting these expenses.

Just recently, I became aware of the fact that one donor had great difficulty with the \$400 travel expense from northern Wisconsin to Madison. A second donor was out of work longer than she expected, and was forced to put all her expenses for a month on a credit card due to lost wages. And finally, one living liver donor was forced to go back to work two weeks after surgery, potentially jeopardizing her recovery. She is a hairdresser and could not afford to lose additional income.

Mr. Chairman and members of this committee, in closing, Assembly Bill 447 does not even remotely touch the issue of payment for organ donation. The societies which I have served as a president, and all professional societies in the civilized world, have expressed their opposition to monetary compensation for organ donation. This bill, in contrast, is a much needed gesture by society to express our gratitude to these selfless individuals, and to make sure that in addition to the physical trauma to which they voluntarily expose themselves, no additional financial hardships are imposed.

Thank you very much for allowing me to present my views.



WISCONSIN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

TO: Members, Assembly Committee on Public Health
FROM: Jodi Jensen, Vice President, Government Relations
DATE: August 27, 2003
SUBJECT: Assembly Bill 477 - Organ Donation

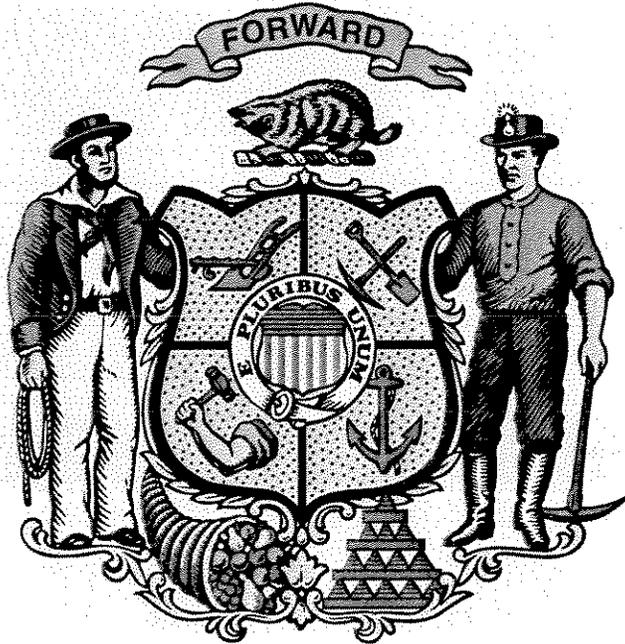


WHA urges your support of AB 477, which is designed to encourage organ donation and address the growing list of Wisconsin individuals waiting for an organ transplant. AB 477 would allow living organ donors to deduct up to \$10,000 of their travel, lodging and lost wage expenses from their income taxes. Any reimbursed expenses could not be deducted. A Wisconsin resident donating bone marrow, or all or part of a liver, pancreas, kidney, intestine, or lung would qualify for the tax deduction.

In Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital, St. Luke's Medical Center, and Children's Hospital have transplant programs. Their combined list of patients waiting for an organ donation has surpassed 1,400. Nationwide, 82,000 patients are on waiting lists. In Wisconsin, some people have been waiting for a liver or kidney for more than five years. Last year, 114 patients died while waiting for a transplant. Rep. Wieckert's efforts to encourage organ donation, help shorten this waiting list, and improve the life and health of many Wisconsin residents are worthy of your support.

As you know, Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson has made increased living and cadaver organ donation a top priority. While we have made progress, the number of waitlisted patients continues to outpace the number of donors. According to the 2002 annual report of the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network and the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients, living organ donations increased 13.7 percent from 2000 to 2001, while donations increased 4.7 percent overall. During this same period, the number of patients waiting for an organ increased 8.1 percent. In Wisconsin, living organ donations increased 13.8 percent, and donations increased 5.4 percent overall, but the number of patients on the waiting list was static.

Wisconsin must strive to expand on existing state and federal efforts to increase organ donation. WHA encourages your support of AB 477 as one method of doing just that. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (608) 274-1820.

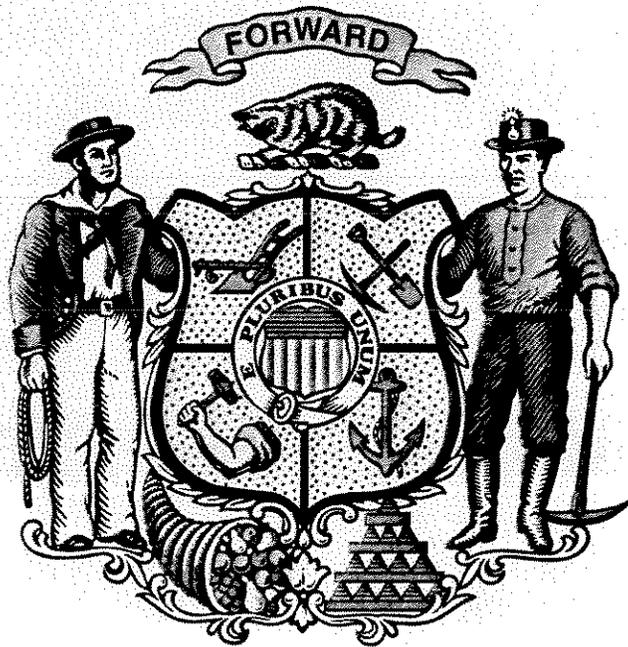


TO: Honorable Members of the Assembly Committee on Public Health
FROM: Richard L. Holloway, PhD
DATE: August 27, 2003
RE: Support for Assembly Bill 477 – Organ Donation

My name is Richard L. Holloway, and I am the father of Evan Holloway, who received a liver transplant at the age of four in 1997. He is now eleven years old, and doing well, due to the extraordinary generosity of his donor and donor family.

The process of organ donation is arduous, for the donor family, the recipient family and even the healthcare team, who are given the burden of managing communication on the most sensitive of life and death issues. To remove one small barrier, without affecting the ethical stance of organ procurement processes, will be of great benefit to those who give this cherished gift of life. Our donor family was a source of special support, and if their financial burden could be alleviated in any way, it would most assuredly be to the great benefit of the citizenry of Wisconsin.

Offering a modicum of tax relief will not be equivalent to selling organs, and the process for monitoring donations is so rigorous already I see no reason for concern that someone might take unfair advantage of this provision. It merely offers some relief to those who have given the gift of life: a gift that has allowed my son and others like him to live and thrive.





Office of Planning and
Government Affairs

TO: Honorable Members of the Assembly Committee on Public Health

FROM: T. Michael Bolger, J.D.
President & CEO

DATE: August 27, 2003

RE: Support for Assembly Bill 477 – relating to creating an individual income tax subtraction modification for certain individuals who donate a human organ.

On behalf of the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW), I want to thank you for holding a public hearing on Assembly Bill 477 designed to increase the number of organ donations in Wisconsin.

Since Dr. Joseph Murphy performed the first kidney transplant in 1954, by taking the kidney of an identical twin and successfully transplanting it in the body of his brother, organ transplants have given hope where there otherwise is none, along with extending and saving countless lives.

As you know, there are over 80,000 patients currently waiting for an organ transplant. Nearly 3,000 new patients are added to the list each month. Sadly, every day 16 to 17 people die while waiting for a transplant of a vital organ, such as a kidney, liver, heart, lung, pancreas, or bone marrow.

While there is widespread support for organ donation, less than 30% of the population have signed an organ donation card or spoken to their family about the possibility of becoming an organ donor. Acceptable organ donors can range in age from newborn to 65 years or more. An estimated 10,000 to 14,000 people who die each year meet the criteria for organ donation, but less than half of that number becomes actual organ donors. Clearly, increasing the number of persons willing to donate an organ will reduce the number of deaths of those individuals awaiting a transplant.

There are two types of organ donors: individuals who are “brain dead” (whose brain function has ceased permanently) but whose heart and lungs continue to function with the use of ventilators. The second organ donor, and the one this bill impacts, is a living donation which takes place when a living person donates an organ or part of an organ to be transplanted into a person in need.

Assembly Bill 477

August 27, 2003

Page 2

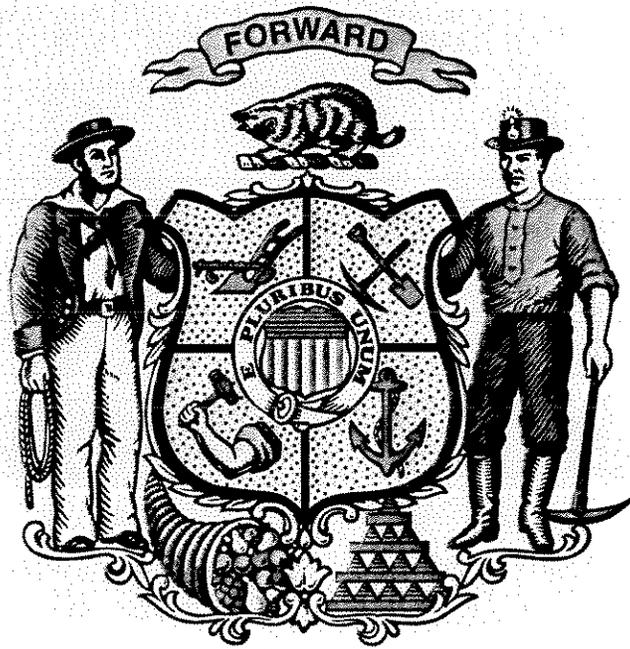
While a living donation is often a very positive experience for the donor, in that the donor has the knowledge that they were able to save a life, it can be financially costly in lost income, travel and lodging.

Assembly Bill 477 proposes to create an individual income tax subtract modification for certain individuals who donate a human organ. Clearly this bill, if passed, will help alleviate a financial burden that may currently prevent individuals from donating a kidney, liver or another vital organ. Specifically, this bill creates an individual income tax subtract modification for certain expenses incurred by an individual who donates one or more of his or her human organs. Under the bill, an individual who donates (while living) an organ to another human being for transplantation may subtract from federal adjusted gross income up to \$10,000 for costs incurred for travel and lodging expenses, as well as lost wages that are incurred as a result of the donation.

The efforts to increase organ donations are critical to reducing the wait lists and saving lives. Assuming that Assembly Bill 477 is consistent with federal law, which prohibits an organ donor from profiting from the donation, we are wholeheartedly in support.

Thank you for your sincere interest in this very important issue. Every day lives are saved by an organ transplant and unfortunately, every day lives are lost waiting for the "gift of life."

Thank you for considering my comments. If you have any questions, please contact MCW Director of Government Affairs, Kathryn Kuhn at 414-456-8544.





Wisconsin Medical Society

Your Doctor. Your Health.

August 27, 2003

TO: Representative J.A. "Doc" Hines
Chairman, Assembly Public Health Committee
Members, Assembly Public Health Committee

FROM: Elizabeth Schumacher, JD, Legislative Counsel

RE: Support: AB 477

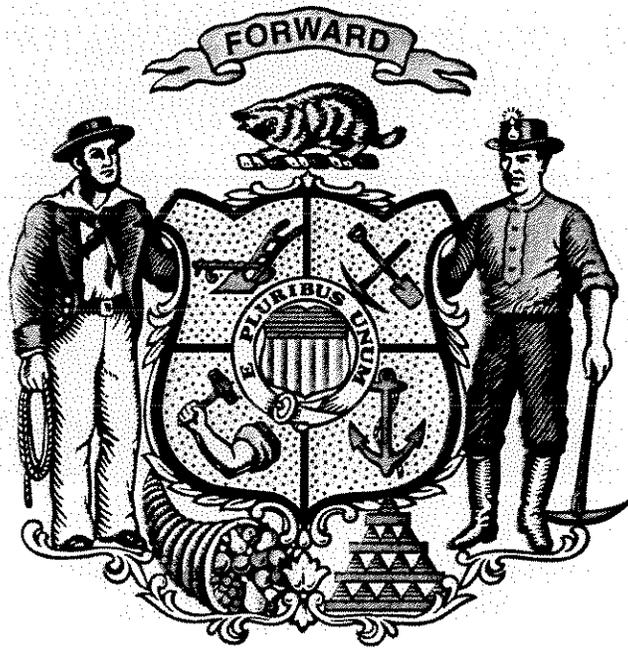
On behalf of over 10,000 Wisconsin physicians, thank you for this opportunity to present testimony in support of AB 477. The Wisconsin Medical Society strongly supports this bill because it promotes organ donation. The Society urges members of the committee to unanimously support this important health policy.

The Society has supported organ donation for several years. In 2000, organ donation was chosen as our yearly theme. During that year, we worked with public and private sector partners to develop legislation that would promote organ donation. We also worked with the State Bar of Wisconsin to develop new guidelines and educational materials that promote organ donation.

While the Society does not support direct financial incentives for organ donation, we believe that this bill is different. Receiving a small tax benefit for reimbursement of the expenses related to organ donation is a small benefit for organ donors who assume the risks, costs and other burdens related to performing this lifesaving and altruistic act. Moreover, it is consistent with federal law that allows for reimbursement of the expenses related to organ donation.

According to the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS), on August 26, 2003, 82,466 Americans were waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant. Between January and May, 2003, 10,486 patients were given a lifesaving organ transplant. Clearly, the discrepancy between the number of organs available, and the number of patients who need a transplant, is staggering. Legislation like AB 477 not only offers small assistance to donors, but it also promotes good public health.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have questions, or would like further information, please contact Liz Schumacher at lizs@wismed.org or 608-442-3769.



**REPRESENTATIVE WIECKERT'S \$10,000
ORGAN DONATION DEDUCTION**



GIVE AND EXPERIENCE LIFE TO THE FULLE

**ASSEMBLY PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
MEETING
AUGUST 27, 2003**



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE
ASSEMBLY CHAMBER

STEVEN K. WIECKERT
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

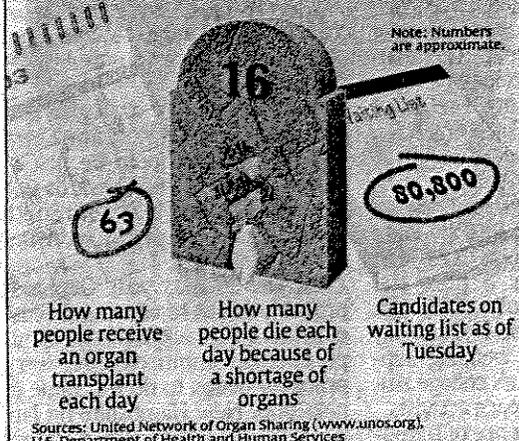
STATE CAPITOL
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708

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USA TODAY
January 22, 2003

USA TODAY Snapshots®

Waiting for organ transplants



Sources: United Network of Organ Sharing (www.unos.org), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

By Shannon Reilly and Marcy E. Mullins, USA TODAY



STEVE WIECKERT

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

CHAIRMAN

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

For Immediate Release
Contact: State Representative Steve Wieckert
(920) 731-3000
(608) 266-3070
(888) 534-0057

August 27, 2003

Wieckert To Introduce \$10,000 Organ Donation Tax Deduction at Public Hearing Today

**World Renowned Transplant Surgeon Dr. Hans Sollinger and Organ
Recipient, Actor, Larry Hagman Will Testify**

Madison - Rep. Steve Wieckert (R-Appleton) will be introducing a bill to encourage organ donation at the Medical College of Wisconsin today.

Nationwide, over 80,000 people are waiting for organ transplants. Over 1,500 people are on the list from Wisconsin. Thousands of people will die each year waiting for transplants. "If we do more to encourage organ donation, we can save a significant number of lives" Wieckert said. This legislation allows for a \$10,000 state income tax deduction for a living organ donor's expenses of travel, lodging and lost wages.

This bill has gained national attention, as actor Larry Hagman, star of the TV series "I Dream of Jeannie" and "Dallas" will be appearing at the Public Hearing to testify on behalf of Rep. Wieckert's Organ Donation Bill. Mr. Hagman is the recipient of a liver transplant and is a board member of the national Advisory Committee on Organ Transplantation (ACOT).

Dr. Hans Sollinger, an internationally renowned transplant surgeon of the UW-Transplant Center, will also be testifying in favor of this legislation. The UW center has performed more kidney transplants than any other center in the nation.

Dr. Mark Adams, Chief Transplant Surgeon of the Medical College of Wisconsin, recipient of numerous awards and honors for transplant accomplishments will also testify for this bill.

IDEALS, PRINCIPLES, PATRIOTISM

STATE CAPITOL OFFICE: ROOM 16 WEST • P.O. BOX 8953 • MADISON, WI 53708-8953 • (608) 266-3070 • (608) 282-3657 FAX • Rep.Wieckert@legis.state.wi.us
DISTRICT 57 OFFICE: 3033 W. SPENCER STREET • APPLETON, WI 54914 • (920) 731-3000 • FAX: (920) 731-2999

COMMITTEES: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT • GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS • HEALTH • HOUSING • INSURANCE



STEVE WIECKERT

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

CHAIRMAN
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE
ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

In recent years, the number of living donors has exceeded the number of deceased donors, making this legislation even more important. Last year, Wisconsin reported 213 living donors. The types of organs qualifying under this legislation include kidney, liver, lung, pancreas, bone marrow, and intestine.

"The number of available organs falls far short of the demand," Wieckert said. "This bill is designed as part of the solution to that problem, it is designed to help save lives."

The committee will receive testimony from live donors as well as organ recipients reporting on the vital importance of organ donation and the need for this legislation.

Other states are watching the progress of this bill, and have expressed interest in considering this as model legislation for their states. A somewhat similar bill has been introduced in the United States Senate by Senator Bill Frist (R-Tennessee) offering compensation to donors and a pilot registry program.

The hearing, which is open to the public, will be held on Wednesday, August 27, 9:00 A.M. at the Medical College of Wisconsin, 8701 Watertown Plank Road, Milwaukee WI in room H1230.

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IDEALS, PRINCIPLES, PATRIOTISM

STATE CAPITOL OFFICE: ROOM 16 WEST • P.O. BOX 8953 • MADISON, WI 53708-8953 • (608) 266-3070 • (608) 282-3657 FAX • Rep.Wieckert@legis.state.wi.us
DISTRICT 57 OFFICE: 3033 W. SPENCER STREET • APPLETON, WI 54914 • (920) 731-3000 • FAX: (920) 731-2999

COMMITTEES: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT • GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS • HEALTH • HOUSING • INSURANCE

Larry Hagman Biography

November 21, 1980 and August 23, 1995, are two dates Larry Hagman will never forget. On the first, over 350 million fans in 57 countries were glued to their television sets to find out who shot J.R. On the second, Larry received a liver transplant that took 16 hours and saved his life.

Feeling better than he had in years, Hagman completed work on two projects that were filming simultaneously: Ken Follett's "The Third Twin", a four hour mini-series based on the author's best selling novel, which aired on CBS, and Mike Nichols' "Primary Colors", a film based on the best-selling book by Anonymous ... who later was acknowledged to be Journalist, Joe Klein. The film opened March 20, 1998 and stars John Travolta, Emma Thompson, Billy Bob Thornton, Kathy Bates and Adrian Lester. Hagman plays Governor Picker, an anti-politics politician who poses a serious threat to Governor Stanton's (John Travolta) bid for office. Mr. Hagman has received unanimous raves from the critics for his stirring performance and rumblings of a possible Academy Award nomination next year for Best Supporting Actor abound. "Primary Colors" is Hagman's second "presidential" film having also appeared in Oliver Stone's "Nixon". Following those projects, the second Dallas Reunion Movie, "War of the Ewings", aired on CBS on Friday, April. 24. Larry also served as Executive Producer.

Hagman was born in Fort Worth, Texas on September 21st, the son of actress Mary Martin and attorney Ben Hagman. When his parents divorced, he moved to Los Angeles to live with his grandmother. After his grandmother's death, Hagman, who was only 12, returned to his mother, who had remarried and was pursuing a successful Broadway career.

After a year at Bard College in Anandale-on-the-Hudson, New York, Hagman decided to follow in his mother's theatrical footsteps. His first stage experience was with the Margo Jones Theatre-in-the-Round in Dallas. He next appeared in the New York City Center production of "Taming the Shrew," followed by a year in regional theater.

Hagman moved to England as a member of the cast of his mother's big stage hit, "South Pacific," and stayed for five years. There he joined the U.S. Air Force, where he produced and directed several shows for members of the service.

While stationed in England, Hagman met and married Maj (pronounced "My") Axelsson (December, 1954), a young Swedish designer who Larry insists is "the best thing that ever happened to me."

After completing his military service, Larry returned to New York for a series of Broadway and off-Broadway plays, including "Once Around the Block," "Career," "Comes A Day," "A Priest in the House" and "The Beauty Part," "The Warm Peninsula," "The Nervous Set," among others.

His television experience began with various guest appearances on such shows as "The ALCOA Hour." He was then cast in the daytime series "The Edge of Night," in which he starred for 2 years.

After eight years in New York, Larry decided to pack up his family - - which then included a daughter, Kristina Mary (2/17/58) and a son, Preston (5/2/62) - and move to Hollywood.

Mr. Hagman became a true TV star in 1965 in the comedy series "I Dream of Jeannie," in which he played an amiable astronaut whose life is plagued by a beautiful blonde genie, portrayed by Barbara Eden. The show ran for 5 years and afterwards, Larry continued his television success in "The Good Life" and "Here We Go Again," as well as a multitude of guest-starring roles on various series. He also starred with Lauren Bacall in the television version of the hit Broadway musical "Applause."

Mr. Hagman's TV film credits include:

- "The President's Mistress"
- "Last of the Good Guys"
- "Battered"
- "Deadly Encounter"
- "Staying Afloat" for which he also served as executive producer.
- "The Third Twin"

Among his motion picture credits are:

- "Fail-Safe" (1964)
- "Ensign Pulver" (1964)
- "The Cavern" (1965)
- "In Harm's Way" (1965)
- "The Group" (1966 - his performance was overwhelmingly praised by the critics)
- "Three in the Cellar" (1970)
- "Harry and Tonto" (1974)
- "Stardust" (1975)
- "Mother, Jugs and Speed" (1976)
- "The Eagle Has Landed" (1976)
- "Superman" (1978)
- "Blake Edwards' S.O.B." (1981).
- "Primary Colors" (1998)

It was not until 1977, when "Dallas" came along, however, that Mr. Hagman's career took off. He credits "Superchick" (his affectionate name for Maj) for persuading him to do the series. This saga of an excessively rich Texas family, was one of the boldest, brassiest, most talked-about shows ever and, Larry Hagman, as the despicable, corrupt, merciless, millionaire J.R. Ewing, the man everyone loved to hate, was its centerpiece. The series ran for an unprecedented 13 seasons (from 1978 - 1991) and the "Who shot J.R.?" episode remains the second highest rated TV show in the history of the medium.

Since his name had become synonymous with Texas, it was fitting that he host "Lone Star," an eight-part documentary series on the history of Texas, for PBS. The series, which aired in the fall of 1985, celebrated the 150th anniversary of Texas as an independent republic.

In April 1987, Karl-Lorimar released "Larry Hagman -- Stop Smoking for Life." Proceeds from the instructional home video went to the American Cancer Society. In November 1996, Hagman starred in "Dallas: JR Returns", two-hour MOW which was a ratings blockbuster for CBS as well as in the network's one-hour, drama series "Orleans" His portrayal of Judge Luther Charbonnet garnered some of the best reviews of his career.

Off-screen, Larry is actively involved in numerous civic and philanthropic activities. An adamant non-smoker, Larry was chairperson of the American Cancer Society's "Great American Smokeout" from 1981 to 1992.

Larry served as the National Spokesperson for the 1996, 1998, and 2000 U.S. Transplant Games presented by the National Kidney Foundation and, on November 2, 1996 received the Foundation's Public Service Award for his efforts in heightening public awareness of the importance of organ donation. He continues to serve as an advocate of organ donation and transplantation.

Currently he is serving on the Board for the Solar Electric Light Fund, a non-profit organization bringing solar energy to regions in third world countries without access to electricity.

Larry enjoys spending time with his family more than anything else. He and Maj live on a ranch in Ojai, California but also divide their time between a condo in Santa Monica. They believe that life should be filled with sensual pleasures -- -- "Don't Worry, Be Happy, Feel Good" is the family motto.

Mr. Hagman, an avid Harley-hog, also enjoys fishing, traveling, and collecting hats and flags.

Larry's new book *Hello Darlin'* published by Simon and Schuster, was released in October 2001 and is available in bookstores everywhere.

Hans W. Sollinger, M.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Hans Sollinger, the Folkert O. Belzer Professor of Surgery, is internationally recognized as one of the leading transplant surgeons in the world. Sollinger's depth of transplant experience and his affiliation with the University of Wisconsin—a major academic medical center—enable the UW Transplant Program to be among the best in transplant medicine.

Sollinger began his medical career in Munich, Germany, where he earned his M.D. from the University of Munich in 1973, and his Ph.D. from the University of Munich in 1975. He came to the University of Wisconsin in 1975, where he finished a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in the Immunobiology Research Center. He completed his surgical residency at the University of Wisconsin from 1976-1980. In 1980, Dr. Sollinger joined the faculty of the University of Wisconsin under the leadership of another world-reknown transplant surgeon Dr. Folkert O. Belzer, and upon Dr. Belzer's retirement in 1995, Sollinger was named Chair of the Division of Organ Transplantation at UW Hospital and Clinics. He became the Folkert O. Belzer Professor of Surgery in 1996.

Among his many accomplishments at UW, Sollinger pioneered a surgical technique that is used worldwide in pancreas transplantation. His curriculum vitae currently lists more than 400 peer-reviewed publications, four books, and 58 book chapters. Sollinger is a member of the American Surgical Association, The Transplantation Society, the Society of University Surgeons, the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, and the International Society for Organ Sharing. He is Past President of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons and the International Society for Organ Sharing, and serves on the editorial boards of ten transplant journals.

CURRICULUM VITAE

MARK B. ADAMS, M. D., M. S., F.A.C.S.

PERSONAL DATA

Home Address 13180 Caroline Court
 Elm Grove, WI 53122
 (414) 784-6842

Office Address Division of Transplant Surgery
 The Medical College of Wisconsin
 Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital
 9200 West Wisconsin Avenue
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226
 Office: 414/456-6920
 FAX: 414/456-6222

Date of Birth October 10, 1946

Children Nicholas (1974)
 Rachel (1977)
 Cameron (1985)

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Reed College, Portland, Oregon
1964-1968 B.A.

University of Oregon Medical School, Portland, Oregon
1968-1972 M.D.

Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI
1972-1973 Rotating Intern

Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI
1976-1977 M.S.

Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI
1973-1978 Resident in Surgery

Mark B. Adams, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.S.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Instructor in Surgery, 1975 to 1978
Instructor in Surgery, July 1, 1978 to July 1, 1979
Assistant Professor of Surgery, July 1, 1979 to June 30, 1983
Associate Professor of Surgery, July 1, 1983 to March 1, 1989
Chief, Division of Transplant Surgery, January 1, 1987
Professor of Surgery, March 1, 1989
Acting Chair, Department of Surgery, October 1, 1996 – July 1, 1997
Vice Chairman, Department of Surgery, July 1, 1997
Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Staff Surgeon, July 1, 1978 to December 31, 1995
John L. Doyne Hospital, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Staff Surgeon, July 1, 1978 to June 30, 1997
Veterans Administration Medical Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Staff Surgeon, September 1980 to present
Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Associate Staff, July 1981 to present
Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

PRESENT PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Member, Executive Committee of the Department of Surgery
Member, Rank & Tenure Committee
Medical College of Wisconsin

Director, Transplant Program - Kidney
Director, Transplant Program - Liver
Medical Director, Wisconsin Donor Network
Member, Operating Room Management Committee
Member, Operating Room Policy Committee
Member, Hospital Advisory Committee
Primary Surgeon – Kidney
Primary Surgeon – Liver
Primary Surgeon – Pancreas
Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital

Director, Transplant Program - Kidney
Director, Transplant Program - Liver
Primary Surgeon – Kidney
Primary Surgeon – Liver
Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

Mark B. Adams, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.S.

PRESENT PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES (Continued)

Member, Board of Directors
Member, Medical Advisory Board
National Kidney Foundation - Wisconsin Chapter

Member, Wisconsin District #1 Committee on Applicants
American College of Surgeons

Member, Executive Committee
Member, Medical Review Committee
Chairman, Data Analysis Subcommittee
Network 11 End Stage Renal Disease

Chairman, Liver Review Board
Member, Ad Hoc Living Donor Committee
UNOS

Regional Representative, Liver/Intestine Transplantation Committee
Region 7 UNOS

Chairman, Informatics Committee
American Society of Transplant Surgeons

Member, 2003 Nominating Committee
Central Surgical Association

PAST PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

President, *Physicians for Social Responsibility SE Wisconsin Chapter* 1982-1993
Member, Medical Executive Committee, *Froedtert Hospital*
Vice Chief of Staff, *Froedtert Hospital* 1988-1990
Regional Representative, Membership & Professional Standards Committee, *UNOS* 1989-1991
Member, Medical Advisory Committee, *Network 13* 1990-1991
Member, Executive Committee, *Network 13* 1990-1991
Chief of Staff, *Froedtert Hospital* 1990-1992
President, Board of Directors, *National Kidney Foundation Wisconsin Chapter* 1990-1992
Medical Director – OPO Committee, *UNOS* 1991-1993
Councillor, Regional Board of Directors, *UNOS* 1991-1993
Regional Rep, Organ Procurement and Distribution Subcommittee, *UNOS* 1992-1993
Member, Council on Transplantation, *National Kidney Foundation* 1992-1994
Member, Board of Directors, *WIPRO* 1992-1996
Member, Resource Development Committee, *National Kidney Foundation* 1993-1994
Member, Public Education Committee, *National Kidney Foundation* 1994-1995
Medical Director – OPO Committee, *UNOS* 1994-1996
Member, OPO Organ Sharing Technical Subcommittee At Large, *UNOS* 1994-1996
Executive Committee, *Milwaukee Surgical Society* 1995-2000

Mark B. Adams, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.S.

PAST PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES (continued)

Vice Chairman, OPO Committee, *UNOS 1996-1998*
Chairman, Membership Committee, *Central Surgical Association 1997-1998*
Member, Review Board – Liver, *UNOS 1997-1998*
Medical Director, OPO Committee, *UNOS 1998-1999*
Chairman, OPO Committee, *UNOS 1998-2000*
Member At-Large, Council for Organ Availability At Large, *UNOS 1998-2000*
Chairman, Review Board – Liver, *UNOS 1999 – 2000*
Chairman, Ethics Committee *American Society of Transplant Surgeons 2000*
Ex. Officio, *OPO Committee 2000-2001*
At-Large Member, *OPO Committee 2001-2002*
Immediate Past President *Wisconsin Surgical Society 1999-2001*
Immediate Past President *Wisconsin Chapter, American College of Surgeons 2001*

ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

1981, 1998 Faculty Teacher of the Year, *Medical College of Wisconsin*
1985 Davis and Geck award for contributions to the Ciné Clinic Program
1992 Physician Volunteer of the Year, *National Kidney Foundation WI Chapter*
1994 Physician Recognition Award in Continuing Medical Education, *American Medical Association*
1996 Public Service Award, *National Kidney Foundation*
2000 Distinguished Service Award, *Medical College of Wisconsin*
2000 Special Recognition Award, *State Medical Society*
2001 Special Recognition Award, *State Medical Society*

BOARD CERTIFICATION

American Board of Surgery, June 29, 1979
Fellow, American College of Surgeons, October 15, 1981
Recertification, American Board of Surgery, 1988
Recertification, American Board of Surgery, 1998

LICENSURE

Wisconsin Medical License: 18552 (expires 10/31/03)

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

American College of Surgeons
American Surgical Association
Association for Academic Surgery
Milwaukee Academy of Surgery

Organ Donation Testimony
Assembly Committee on Public Health Hearing
Medical College of Wisconsin, H1230
Wednesday, August 27, 2003
AB 477
by
State Representative Steve Wieckert
(1-608-266-3070)

Thank you Chairman Hines and members of the committee for holding this public hearing today. You all went above and beyond the call of duty in holding a hearing away from the Capitol when the Assembly is not in session. Your commitment to increased organ donation is demonstrated by your being here today.

Thank you also to Dr. Hans Sollinger for testifying at this hearing. Dr. Sollinger is an internationally renowned transplant surgeon located at the University of Wisconsin Medical School. The UW-Transplant Center has preformed 345 kidney transplants last year alone. This ranks it as number one in the nation. This program has also lead the country in quality outcomes of organ transplants for the last ten years. Dr. Sollinger is the past president of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons and serves on the editorial board of ten transplant journals. Through the University of Wisconsin transplant program, Dr. Sollinger pioneered new surgical techniques in pancreas transplantations. These techniques are now used by surgeons nationwide.

I would also like to thank Dr. Mark Adams, Chief Transplant Surgeon of the Medical College of Wisconsin. Dr. Adams has received numerous recognitions and awards from the State Medical Society for his work in organ transplantation. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to the Medical College of Wisconsin, for hosting this Public Hearing.

I cannot express enough gratitude to Mr. Larry Hagman for appearing for the first time at a State Public Hearing to testify on behalf of this bill. Mr. Hagman is the recipient of a liver transplant and is a board member of the national Advisory Committee on Organ Transplantation (ACOT). Mr. Hagman is also known by millions for his lead roles in the TV series "I Dream of Jeannie" and "Dallas." Mr. Hagman has been a perfect gentleman to work with, and I cannot thank him enough for attending this hearing.

Now, to the issue at hand. Currently, there is a dire need for organ donations in our country. There are about 80,000 people in America on waiting lists to receive organ transplants. Nationwide, over 5,000 of these individuals will die each year because there is not available the organ they need, which could have saved their life. In Wisconsin alone, there are over 1,500 people on the waiting list for organ transplants.

This bill, AB 477, is designed to help encourage the awareness and importance of organ donation through public hearings like this and also to offer assistance in

encouraging organ donation. This legislation would create a \$10,000 state income tax deduction for living donors who incur expenses because of organ donation. Last year, Wisconsin had 213 living donors. The vast majority donated kidneys. The categories that would be allowable for expense deductions include travel and lodging expenses and lost wages. The types of organs this bill covers includes, kidney transplants, and partial liver, pancreas, lung, bone marrow and intestine.

In the last several years, nationwide, the number of living organ donors has exceeded the donations received from deceased individuals. This trend is predicted to continue, making the need for this legislation providing for living organ donations more important than ever.

There is also additional value to be had from living donations. The quality of transplant is often better when the organ comes from a living donor. Many times there are fewer infections, less complications, longer working-life of the organ, and better outcomes in general.

The need for more organ donations is real and many other states and the Federal Government are aware of this problem, and are attempting to find solutions. The United States Congress and Senate are currently considering such types of legislation. Representative Bill Bilirakis (R-Florida) has introduced a bill, which would provide states money to help establish a registry and

compensate donors for lost wages in certain cases. This bill has received wide support in Congress. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tennessee) has introduced legislation, which would create a national taskforce, provide for compensation for donors and create several pilot programs.

These bills are somewhat similar, and more expansive than the bill we are hearing today. The existence of federal legislation demonstrates that the increasing need for living organ donors affects not only the state of Wisconsin, but also the entire nation.

Our bill could serve as model legislation for states around the country.

Legislative searches through the help of NCSL have shown no other states have yet enacted similar legislation. My staff and I contacted a number of other elected officials in other states about this issue and discovered a widespread interest in this bill.

This bill rises above partisan politics. Governments are made to serve the people and that is what this legislation does in the purest sense. This bill is designed to help save lives. Thousands of lives can be saved each year through organ donation.

Wisconsin can lead the nation in this effort to encourage organ donation. This bill is relevant; there is a genuine and increasing need for living organ donations.

Most importantly, this legislation can save lives by lending a helping hand to those who selflessly choose to save the lives of others.

Thank you again for holding this hearing away from the Capitol and for providing me this opportunity to testify in favor of organ donation.

I would now like to have Dr. Hans Sollinger take my seat to present his testimony, followed by Dr. Mark Adams and then by Mr. Larry Hagman. Dr. Adams has a scheduled surgery in a little while, and will be available to answer questions if his time permits. If it is all right with the Chairman, it may be best if we hold all questions until all four testimonies are presented.

'Dallas' star to promote organ bill

Larry Hagman to speak at hearing in Milwaukee

By Ben Jones
P-C Madison bureau chief

MADISON — For state lawmakers, introducing a bill is often the easy part of the process.

Getting people to pay attention or care can be a different story.

State Rep. Steve Wieckert, R-Appleton, knows get-

ting people to pay attention to organ donation is also a problem: Thousands die each year waiting for transplants because of donor shortages.

So, to ensure a bill concerning organ donation he authored draws attention, Wieckert is enlisting star power.

Larry Hagman, who starred as J.R. Ewing in the 1980s primetime soap opera "Dallas," along with

IF YOU GO

A hearing on a bill creating a tax benefit for organ donors will be held at 9 a.m. Aug. 27 in the main building of the Medical College of Wisconsin, 8701 Watertown Plank Road, Milwaukee.

On the Web

For more information, go to:
www.organdonor.gov

other television shows and films, will testify at a hearing Aug. 27 in Milwaukee.

The bill he will promote would create a tax benefit for organ donors.

Hagman, himself a liver transplant recipient, will be in Milwaukee for Harley-Davidson's 100th anniversary rally later this month. When Wieckert asked Hagman to testify, he agreed.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Wieckert said Wednesday. "The whole idea of this is to create more awareness on



Wieckert



Hagman

ORGAN: Bill would give tax break to donors

From C-1

organ donation. Larry Hagman's presence will do that."

The bill would allow individuals who donate organs to someone else to deduct up to \$10,000 of their travel and lost wage expenses from their income taxes.

Wieckert said the bill would result in \$115,000 in lost state revenues but might increase numbers of organ donors.

The legislation has a number of supporters, including Alan Cable of the Community Blood Center Inc. of Appleton. In a letter supporting the bill, Cable said that if even one organ more became available through the legislation, it would be worth enacting.

"The benefit to the patient is life," Cable said. "The benefit to our state of Wisconsin and the U.S. is another productive, healthy individual enjoying a new lease on life."

Ben Jones can be reached at 608-255-9256 or by e-mail at bjones@postcrescent.com.

See ORGAN, C-10

August 24, 2003

State Representative Steve Wieckert
Assembly Public Health Committee
Madison, WI

Dear Representative Wieckert and members of the Assembly Public Health Committee:

As an organ donor and health care professional, I am writing in support of Assembly Bill #477, the "\$10,000 organ donation bill" which would allow a one-time income tax deduction for organ donors to assist with travel and lodging expenses and lost wages associated with the surgery. Currently, these expenses are not covered by health insurance.

In 1995, I had the privilege of donating a kidney to my brother, Rick Langer (please refer to his letter). Rick's kidneys were failing because of a congenital disorder which also affected our father. The surgeries went smoothly, and both of us recovered fully without complications. Immediately after receiving my kidney, Rick's energy and vitality returned. With restored health, he has made significant contributions to society through his law practice and volunteer activities with a number of organizations, most recently, HospiceCare of Dane County. I returned to full time employment as a nurse practitioner and faculty member at University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Nursing.

Why should we, as a society, support organ donation? Individuals who are chronically ill with failing hearts, lungs, livers or kidneys are unable to enjoy an optimum quality of life. They do not have the energy to participate fully with family life or professional activities. From an economic viewpoint, transplants make sense. For those with end-stage kidney disease who require hemodialysis, Medicare is charged approximately \$65,000 per person per year. Additionally, the number of Americans requiring dialysis is increasing. The cost of kidney transplantation is recovered within three years of surgery.

Why should we support living organ donation? With kidneys, the data are clear: individuals who receive kidneys from living donors have better outcomes, both short-term and long-term. Furthermore, kidneys are now removed using a laparoscopic technique. This advance has resulted in shorter hospitalizations, less postoperative discomfort, and a faster return to work for donors. Finally, and very sadly, there are simply not enough organs available from deceased donors to meet the increasing need. The current wait for a kidney is approximately 2 years at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, a leading transplant center.

How will this bill support living organ donation? I did not incur travel expenses because both Rick and I live in Madison. Additionally, my employer offered sick leave. Many donors are not as fortunate. This bill would help to offset financial burdens faced by donors who are concomitantly undergoing thorough preoperative evaluations, making plans for surgery, and rearranging family and work responsibilities during recovery. The financial incentive in this bill is not enough to motivate someone to donate an organ for economic gain alone. This bill will make it easier for individuals to move forward with the donation process if expenses associated with the donation would otherwise hold them back.

I strongly urge you to support this bill. Thank you for your consideration.

Ellen Langrehr

608-282-
3657

August 24, 2003

State Representative Steve Wieckert
Assembly Public Health Committee
Madison, WI

Dear Representative Wieckert & Members of the Assembly Public Health Committee:

I am writing this letter in support of legislation that would permit a one-time \$10,000 income tax deduction for organ donors, to assist them with the expenses of their travel, lodging and lost wages during the donation process. Currently, these donors are not compensated by insurance for these expenses.

Eight years ago, I was the recipient of a donated kidney. The donor was my sister, Ellen. At the time, my health had deteriorated significantly due to the failure of my kidneys. My kidney failure was due to a genetic defect that I inherited from my father. Since the transplant, I have enjoyed eight wonderful and healthy years that would have been impossible but for my sister's extraordinary gift. To this day, and every day hereafter, I cannot thank her enough.

It is difficult to really understand the meaning of organ donation unless you yourself are a patient in need. Contemplate being a human being whose health is eroding due to the failure of a kidney, or liver, or heart. Contemplate being a human being who is facing years and years of ill health, and ultimate death. Contemplate being a human being whose dreams have been lost as a result of the disease of an organ. Then contemplate being a human being who receives a healthy organ from another, and whose future turns from darkness to light. Contemplate being a human being whose dreams are restored, and who can face the future with a knowledge of health instead of sickness. This is the experience of the organ recipient.

Over the past eight years, I have traveled with my loving partner and wife, Audrey, experienced the love and maturation of our two loving children, Kathy and Mike, enjoyed the birth and development of our two wonderful grandchildren, Cade and Cole, enjoyed laughter and memories with my sister, Ellen, and my mother, Dorothy, worked many long hours as an attorney in support of the needs of my clients, and served on numerous charitable boards. Currently, I am the President of the HospiceCare Foundation. None of this would have been possible without my sister's amazing gift. I simply would have been too sick.

The organ donor plays an extraordinary role. Contemplate being a human being who willingly puts his or her own health at risk to benefit another person. Contemplate being a human being who willingly sacrifices an organ, and endures the pain and risk associated with that sacrifice, so that another person's dreams can be restored. To be an organ donor is an act of ultimate selflessness.....an act of ultimate spirituality.

An organ donor should not also have to endure economic loss for his/her selflessness. It is unfortunate that insurance does not reimburse the organ donor for his/her travel and lodging costs, and for the costs of lost wages. But that is where we are.

The Bill that you are considering would help cover these costs. I strongly urge your support. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Richard J. Langer



UNIVERSITY OF
WISCONSIN-MADISON
MEDICAL SCHOOL

TO: MEMBERS OF THE WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

**FROM: *HWS* DR. HANS SOLLINGER, CHAIR OF ORGAN TRANPLANTATION
AND DR. ANTHONY D'ALESSANDRO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UWMC ORGAN
PROCUREMENT ORGANIZATION**

DATE: Tuesday, May 27, 2003

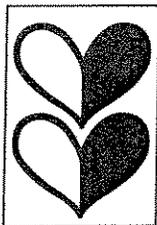
RE: CO-SPONSORSHIP OF REP. WIECKERT'S LRB 2108

Representative Wieckert is introducing LRB 2108. This will create an individual income tax subtract modification for certain individuals who, while living, donate a human organ. Assuming this complies with federal law, we strongly urge you to co-sponsor this bill.

We believe this bill would greatly encourage organ donation and help shorten the waiting list for nearly 1,000 kidney and liver recipients.

During its 37-year history, the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics Transplant Program has grown to be one of the largest and most active transplant centers in the world. Our staff is equipped to offer a wide range of transplant services, including kidney, pancreas, pancreas islet, liver, heart, lung, intestine, cornea and bone marrow transplants. In addition to transplantation of organs from deceased donors, we have one of the largest live donor programs in the country. In 2002 alone, we performed 575 transplants, including 142 live kidney and 6 live partial liver transplants. Since 1983 we have performed more than 8,000 organ transplants.

Again, we urge you to consider this important legislation. This is a bill that will vastly improve the lives of many Wisconsin residents. Thank you and please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments about our program.



The
Community
Blood
Center
Inc.

June 20, 2003

Representative Steve Wieckert
Room 16 West
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Wieckert,

I whole heartedly endorse your proposed bill to create 71.05 (10) (i) of the Wisconsin statutes. The lives of many individuals in Wisconsin, as well as throughout this great nation of ours, are lost due to the lack of a sufficient number of organs and tissue being available for transplantation.

Every compassionate citizen surely finds it incomprehensible to imagine any reason that is sufficient to deny an organ to an individual in need of a transplant. If only one more organ becomes available because of a deduction to the donor's tax liability, this impediment must be quickly eliminated. The benefit to the patient is Life. The benefit to our State of Wisconsin and to the U. S. is another productive, healthy individual enjoying a new lease on life.

The citizens of Wisconsin and the entire U. S. need more individuals to step forward to help increase the supply of volunteer donor blood, organs and tissue.

My very best wishes to you with this proposed legislation.

Yours truly,

Alan W. Cable
President/CEO

member



4406 W. SPENCER STREET • APPLETON, WISCONSIN 54914-9106
920-738-3131 • 800-280-4102 • Fax: 920-738-3139



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Allograft Resources

3553 University Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53705
Phone: (608) 231-9050
Fax: (608) 231-9776

June 17, 2003

Representative Steve Wieckert
Room 16 West
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

Dear Representative Wieckert:

We applaud the recent introduction of proposed Statute 71.05 (10) (i) to create income tax modifications for certain expenses incurred by living organ donors.

Allograft Resources supports efforts to benefit those who perform the selfless act of donation. We feel strongly that generous individuals and their families should be acknowledged for improving and enhancing lives. Your proposed legislation will help call attention to the importance of all donation, including organs, tissue, eyes, bone marrow and blood.

As the only tissue recovery service in Wisconsin accredited by the American Association of Tissue Banks, Allograft Resources provides donor families with options on human tissue donation, and serves as a resource in their time of need so they can make informed decisions, including the choice not to donate. In 2002, we offered tissue donation options—for transplant, medical research and education—to more than 7,000 families in Wisconsin, northern Illinois and Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Thank you for sponsoring this legislation that will provide assistance to those who made life-saving and life-enhancing decisions.

Sincerely,

Nancy Holland
President and CEO

William D. Petasnick
President and Chief Executive Officer

Froedtert Memorial
Lutheran Hospital
9200 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53226-3596

Froedtert Hospital

Froedtert &
Community Health

June 24, 2003

Representative Steve Wieckert
Room 16 West -- State Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison 53708

414-805-2606
414-805-7955 Fax
wpetasni@fmlh.edu

Dear Representative Wieckert:

Thank you for your efforts to increase awareness of and interest in organ donation programs. I appreciate your interest in and attention to these important issues.

As you are aware, more than 80,000 Americans are currently on transplant waiting lists. Everyday, sixteen Americans die while waiting for a transplant.

This shortage exists despite widespread support for organ donation. More than 85% of the population supports organ donation, but fewer than 30% of the population has signed a donor card or discussed organ donation with their family.

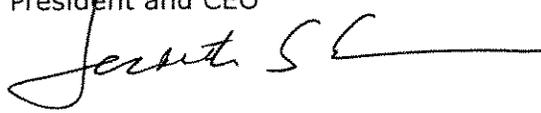
It is clear that the broad support for organ donation creates opportunities to reduce waiting times and increase the number of individuals who sign donor cards and make their wishes known to family members. At Froedtert, we are supportive of efforts to better educate the public about organ donation and to encourage individuals wishing to donate to take action so that their wishes can be honored.

As you are aware, medical advances now enable safe transplants from living donors. At Froedtert, we are also supportive of your efforts to assist individuals who would consider becoming living donors but cannot due to the presence of barriers. We believe that your proposal, LRB 2108, may help reduce the number of people currently waiting for a liver or kidney transplant. Assuming the proposal is consistent with federal law, we support it whole-heartedly.

We look forward to continuing to work with you on these important issues. Again, thank you for commitment and leadership.

Sincerely,


William D. Petasnick
President and CEO


Judith S. Suchman
Director, OPO and Transplant Services

THE BLOOD CENTER
OF SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN, INC.



July 10, 2003

Representative Steve Wieckert
Room 16 West
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Wieckert:

The Blood Center of Southeastern Wisconsin firmly supports the pending legislation that allows a tax deduction for individuals who become live organ donors. Each and every day, those in need of transplants die needlessly while waiting for scarce organs to become available to them. Furthermore, as the number of transplants performed rises (substantially due to procedural improvements and advancements in drug therapies) the number of available organs from deceased donors has significantly decreased. Ironically, this problem is essentially due to a drop in fatalities following stricter enforcement of safety belt and helmet laws, as well as a sharp decline in people who carry donor cards.

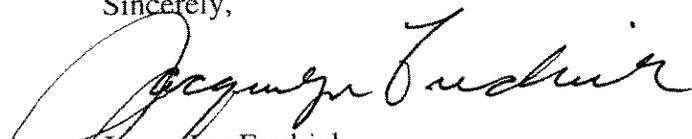
The federal government and medical associations throughout the country have endorsed the recruitment of live donors to solve this pressing issue. Organs from live donors are more viable and last significantly longer than organs harvested from cadavers, and provide the opportunity to transplant the growing numbers of individuals who are highly sensitized and do not qualify for cadaveric organs. We must explore all opportunities to increase live organ donation and to encourage individuals to learn more about the procedure.

For example, thousands of adults and children need bone marrow transplants every year. This particular procedure is generally conducted upon live, volunteer donors. Sufferers of leukemia, aplastic anemia or other cancers all across the nation could be saved if more people were encouraged to become donors. Offsetting some of the financial concerns is an important method of accomplishing this goal.

Statistics show that as many as 27% of live donors suffer significant financial hardship after undergoing this lifesaving procedure. This is why the provisions of this bill, allowing for a tax deduction of up to \$10,000 for incurred expenses, is so important to forwarding the cause of live organ donation. Travel, lodging and lost wages add up significantly for these individuals and this bill will help alleviate some of the financial losses incurred by those who wish to donate their organs to save someone else's life.

We believe that encouraging organ donation is a medical imperative and the best way to save the lives of the thousands that will die this year, waiting in vain for life saving organs. The passage of this bill is a significant step in alleviating the financial hardship borne by live organ donors and increasing the numbers of organs available for transplant.

Sincerely,



Jacquelyn Fredrick
President & CEO

JF/rjm



TOMMY G. THOMPSON
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

MAY 09 2003

Representative Steve Wieckert
Wisconsin State Legislature
State Capitol Office - P.O. Box 8953
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Dear Representative Wieckert:

It was great to hear from you regarding our shared goal of increasing organ donation. Thank you for the kind words, and I appreciate hearing your views regarding the use of financial incentives to encourage organ donations.

Currently, the National Organ Transplant Act prohibits any person to knowingly and for valuable consideration, acquire, receive, or otherwise transfer any human organ for use in human organ transplantation. Any change to this Federal criminal prohibition would require action by Congress. The Department of Justice is the appropriate agency to provide you advice as to whether your proposal could lead to a violation of the criminal prohibition.

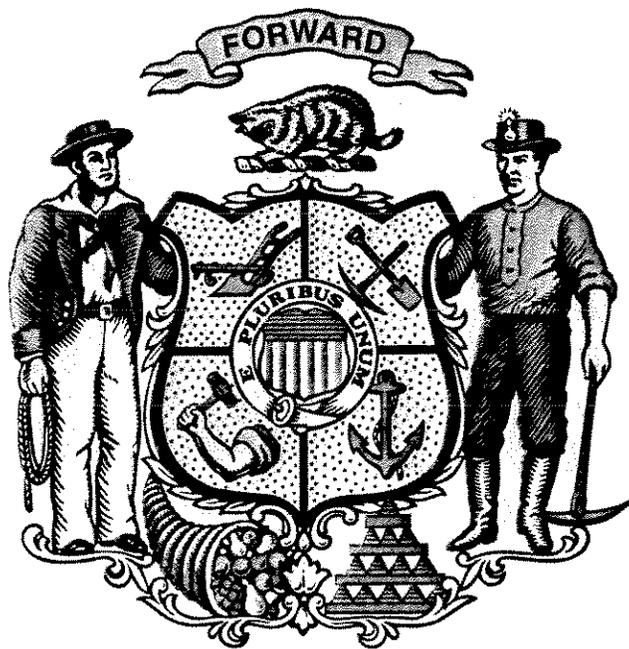
As noted in your letter, I met in late February with Richard DeVos and his physician, Dr. Tomatis, and learned more about their views on this subject. However, the Department's continued review of the policy implications regarding the use of financial incentives to increase organ donation precludes us from taking a position on the issue at this time. I have asked the Advisory Committee on Organ Transplantation, which advises me on all aspects of organ donation, for their advice and counsel on this issue.

Again, thank you for your continued commitment to increase organ donation in our great state of Wisconsin. The residents of the Fox Valley are fortunate to have you as their state representative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tommy G. Thompson".

Tommy G. Thompson

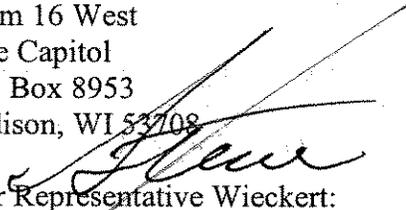




TOMMY G. THOMPSON
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

August 28, 2003

Representative Steve Wieckert
Room 16 West
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

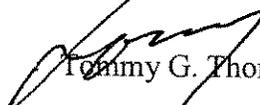

Dear Representative Wieckert:

I want to thank you and Senator Roessler for the bill you recently introduced to promote organ donation. I appreciate your passion on this important public health issue.

As you know, more than 80,000 people are on the waiting list to receive a life-saving organ transplant. This is unacceptable to me, and I am working very hard to promote organ donation nation-wide. Making expenses incurred as a result of an organ donation a tax deduction should remove yet another barrier that people face as they decide whether to donate an organ.

Again, thank you for your promoting organ donation in the state of Wisconsin. Please let me know if there is anything that I can do to be of assistance.

Sincerely,


Tommy G. Thompson