

YES on SB 144

 **MEDCURE**



Science Care®

Whole Body Research & Donation Bill

What is Medcure?

Medcure is a leading tissue bank accredited by the AATB (American Association of Tissue Banks) that serves 44 states and is based in Gresham, Oregon. Medcure acts as a bridge between people wanting to donate their whole bodies to science and the medical professionals who rely on them to help shape the future of medicine. There is no substitute for the human body when it comes to teaching and researching new procedures, treatments, and technologies.

Problem:

Under current law Oregonians that wish to give an anatomical gift may register to do so at the DMV or opt-in directly with OHA (Oregon Health Authority). The registry includes gifts of eyes, tissue, and organs. State law does not include necessary provisions for whole body donation. Tissue banks like Medcure that experience high demand for whole bodies from institutions such as hospitals, colleges, universities, and accredited medical and dental schools for research and education purposes do not have the state regulatory infrastructure to legally process them.

Solution:

The Whole Body Research and Donation Bill expands current anatomical donation law to include whole body donation to "Body Donation Organizations" accredited by the AATB for the purpose of research and education. Under SB 144 tissue banks like Medcure will have the ability to receive whole body donations and channel them to hospitals, colleges, universities and accredited medical and dental schools in service to the study of disease, development of new medical devices, innovative surgery techniques, and contributions to our long term understanding of human health.

How It Works:

- Individuals may register at the DMV or directly with OHA for whole body donation like they do to be organ donors under current rule. OHA will keep records of all registrants. Like organ donors, whole body donors will be identified by a symbol on their license, via a written statement, or possession of a donor card. SB 144 ensures whole body donation is secondary to organ and tissue transplants for living patients
- OHA will develop a registry and system for Body Donation Organizations that meet accreditation requirements. Whole bodies will only be donated to organizations that fulfill OHA standards
- MedCure covers all expenses related to the donation process once a candidate for donation is accepted. The costs covered include transportation, cremation, a copy of the death certificate, and the direct return of cremated remains to family within 8 - 12 weeks or remains scattered at sea.

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