



OREGON  
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## **Oregon's Organ Transplant Hospitals Oppose SB 144 and HB 2193**

### ***Efforts to change Oregon Donor Registry could result in fewer lifesaving organs for Oregonians***

#### **What do these bills do?**

These bills grant for-profit body donation companies access to the registry related to organ, eye and tissue procurement for transplant. It redefines "procurement organization" to include "body donation organization," giving for-profit companies access to referrals from hospitals of individuals near death.

#### **SB 144 and HB 2193 could have devastating impacts on our state's lifesaving Oregon Donor Registry.**

These bills could:

- **Dismantle the current registry:** Oregonians who have consented to donation through the current registry system have not consented to whole body donation. To meet the ethical obligation of organ, eye, and tissue donation, Oregon would need to overhaul the current system which consists of more than 2.5 million Oregonians, and re-register current anatomical donors to the new system if SB 144 and HB 2193 were implemented. This could result in a reduction of the number of people who have opted to donate organs to date.
- **Confuse Oregonians interested in donation:** Organ, eye and tissue donation for transplant and body donation for research are two separate considerations for Oregonians and require two different consent options. Combining the two is confusing to Oregonians as they consider making the ultimate gift.
- **Reduce the availability of lifesaving organs:** If Oregonians are confused about what they are consenting to, or don't want to donate to research, it could make them less likely to donate at all, reducing the number of organs and tissues available for transplant. Additionally, for-profit companies can offer compensation that non-profit transplant programs, by law, can't, such as free cremation. This could lead to families choosing body donation instead of lifesaving organ and tissue donation.

#### **Vote No on SB 144 and HB 2193**

Body donation for research is distinct from organ donation, the lifesaving process that enables surgeons to transplant donated hearts, livers and kidneys. It's also different from the recovery of tissue to restore wholeness and mobility. These practices are strictly regulated by the U.S. government. Selling organs, eyes and tissue for transplant is also against federal and state law. Because of this distinction, we urge you to protect the Oregon Donor Registry that regulates these practices separately and vote no on SB 144 and HB 2193.

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