

2013 -- H 5618

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC EDUCATION
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION REGISTRATION

Introduced By: Representatives Keable, Chippendale, Kennedy, O'Brien, and Blazejewski

Date Introduced: February 27, 2013

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 23 of the General Laws entitled "HEALTH AND SAFETY" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following chapter:

3 CHAPTER 18.6.2

4 RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ORGAN AND

5 TISSUE DONATION REGISTRATION

6 **23-18.6.2-1. Advisory council. --** (a) There shall be a public education advisory council
7 for organ and tissue donations consisting of the administrator of the division of motor vehicles or
8 his/her representative, the director of the department of revenue or his/her representative, the
9 director of public health or his/her representative, the president of the hospital association of
10 Rhode Island or his/her representative, a representative of the federally designated organ
11 procurement organization serving Rhode Island, a representative from the Rhode Island organ
12 donor awareness coalition, and four (4) persons experienced in the field of organ and tissue
13 donations to be appointed by the governor, at least one of whom shall be a recipient of a donated
14 organ or tissue, at least one of whom shall be a family member of a donor, and at least one of
15 whom shall be a PhD or MD experienced in the field of organ and tissue donation.

16 The term of all appointive members shall be three (3) years and no such member shall be
17 appointed to serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. Upon the expiration of the term of any
18 appointive member, a successor shall be appointed in like manner for a term of three (3) years.

1 (b) The council will annually designate the chairman from among its members. The
2 council shall meet at least four (4) times each year, and shall convene special meetings at the call
3 of the chairman. The council shall make an annual report to the governor, that shall include an
4 account of all actions taken to further organ and tissue donation, and shall file a copy of the report
5 with the secretary of state, the clerk of the senate and the clerk of the house of representatives.
6 Members of the council shall serve without compensation.

7 (c) The advisory council shall: (1) Assist in coordinating the efforts of all public and
8 private agencies within the state concerned with organ and tissue donation public education; (2)
9 Advise the state on comprehensive public education programs and efforts to increase organ and
10 tissue donation registrations; (3) Develop strategies to increase organ and tissue donation
11 registrations by any means which the council may find effective, the funding for which shall
12 come from the organ and tissue donation public education fund established by section 23-18.6.2-
13 2; and (4) Establish numerical goals for increasing organ and tissue registration rates in the state,
14 which shall include a baseline account of current organ and tissue registration rates, as well as
15 periodic benchmarks for success. The division of motor vehicles shall provide monthly donor
16 designation rates for each motor vehicle branch to assist in identifying goals. The council's sole
17 focus will be on public education to increase organ and tissue donation registrations.

18 **23-18.6.2-2. Funding. --** (a) There shall be established and set up a separate fund to be
19 known as the organ and tissue donation public education fund, to facilitate the registration of
20 organ and tissue donors. The fund shall consist of all revenues received by the state: (1) Pursuant
21 to subsection (c) of this section; and (2) From public and private sources as gifts, grants, and
22 donations to further organ and tissue donor registration.

23 All revenues received under this section shall remain in the organ and tissue donation
24 public education fund, not subject to appropriation, for the registration of organ and tissue donors.
25 The state treasurer shall not deposit these revenues in or transfer these revenues to the general
26 fund or any other fund other than the organ and tissue donation public education fund.

27 (b) The state treasurer shall deposit the fund in accordance with subsection (a) in such
28 manner as will secure the highest interest available consistent with the safety of the fund and with
29 the requirement that all amounts on deposit be available for immediate withdrawal at any time.
30 The fund shall be expended only for the purposes stated in section 23-18.6.2-1 at the direction of
31 a majority vote by the council and any unexpended balances shall be redeposited, as herein
32 provided, for future use consistent with this section.

33 (c) The division of motor vehicles shall include in any license application or renewal
34 process an option for the applying or renewing person to voluntarily donate, in addition to the

1 fees for license application or renewal, two dollars (\$2.00) or more to the organ and tissue
2 donation public education fund. The registrar shall annually report the total amount designated
3 under this subsection to the state treasurer who shall credit that amount to the organ and tissue
4 donation public education fund. The division of motor vehicles shall be given up to one year upon
5 the passage of this legislation to include the option to donate to the organ and tissue donation
6 public education fund on the appropriate state documents.

7 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage and shall apply to all license
8 renewals and applications issued one year from the date of passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC EDUCATION
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION REGISTRATION

1 This act would create the Rhode Island public education advisory council for organ and
2 tissue donation registration consisting of ten (10) members with the sole focus on public
3 education to increase organ and tissue donation registrations. Funding would come from a two
4 dollar (\$2.00) or more optional donation from persons applying for or renewing motor vehicle
5 driver licenses and from public and private sources.

6 This act would take effect upon passage and would apply to all license renewals and
7 applications issued one year from the date of passage.

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