88R12232 MCF-F

By:  Guerra H.B. No. 4136

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to publication of national organ transplant waiting list information on the Department of State Health Services' Internet website and donors included in the anatomical gift registry.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Section 692A.005(a), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  A donor may make an anatomical gift:

(1)  on inclusion in the Glenda Dawson Donate Life-Texas Registry, as demonstrated by [~~authorizing~~] a statement or symbol [~~indicating that the donor has made an anatomical gift to be~~] imprinted on the donor's driver's license or personal identification certificate in the manner described by Section 521.401, Transportation Code, indicating the donor is willing to make an anatomical gift [~~card~~];

(2)  in a will;

(3)  during a terminal illness or injury of the donor, by any form of communication addressed to at least two adults, at least one of whom is a disinterested witness; or

(4)  as provided in Subsection (b).

SECTION 2.  Chapter 692A, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 692A.024 to read as follows:

Sec. 692A.024.  INFORMATION ON NATIONAL WAITING LIST FOR ORGAN TRANSPLANT. The department shall prepare and publish on the department's Internet website information on the steps necessary to be placed on the national waiting list for obtaining an organ transplant.

SECTION 3.  Section 502.189(b), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  The department shall make available for distribution to each office authorized to issue motor vehicle registrations Donate Life brochures that provide basic donor information in English and Spanish and a contact phone number and e-mail address. The department shall ensure that the question provided in Section 521.401(c-1) [~~521.401(c)(1)(B)~~] and information on the donor registry Internet website is included with registration renewal notices.

SECTION 4.  Sections 521.401(c), (c-1), and (e), Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c)  Donor registry information shall be provided to the department and the Texas Department of Transportation by organ procurement organizations, tissue banks, or eye banks, as those terms are defined in Section 692A.002, Health and Safety Code, or by the Glenda Dawson Donate Life-Texas Registry operated under Chapter 692A, Health and Safety Code. The department, with expert input and support from the nonprofit organization administering the Glenda Dawson Donate Life-Texas Registry, shall:

(1)  provide to each applicant for the issuance of an original, renewal, corrected, or duplicate driver's license or personal identification certificate who applies in person, by mail, over the Internet, or by other electronic means, an opportunity for the person to:

(A)  include a statement or symbol imprinted [~~the opportunity to indicate~~] on the person's driver's license or personal identification certificate indicating that the person is willing to make an anatomical gift, in the event of death, in accordance with Section 692A.005, Health and Safety Code; and

(B)  [~~an opportunity for the person to~~] consent to inclusion of the person's information in the statewide Internet-based registry of organ, tissue, and eye donors and release of the information to procurement organizations in the manner provided by Subsection (c-1); and

(2)  provide a means to distribute donor registry information to interested individuals in each office authorized to issue driver's licenses or personal identification certificates.

(c-1)  The department shall:

(1)  specifically ask each applicant only the question, "Ninety percent of Texans believe in organ donation; would you like to join the organ donor registry?" [~~"Would you like to register as an organ donor?"~~]; and

(2)  if the applicant responds affirmatively to the question asked under Subdivision (1), provide the person's name, date of birth, driver's license number, most recent address, and other information needed for identification purposes at the time of donation to the nonprofit organization contracted to maintain the statewide donor registry under Section 692A.020, Health and Safety Code, for inclusion in the registry.

(e)  The department shall distribute at all field offices Donate Life brochures that provide basic donation information in English and Spanish and include a contact phone number and e-mail address. The department shall include the question required under Subsection (c-1) [~~(c)(1)(B)~~] and information on the donor registry Internet website in renewal notices.

SECTION 5.  The changes in law made by this Act apply only to a driver's license or personal identification certificate for which an application is submitted on or after the effective date of this Act. A driver's license or personal identification certificate for which an application was submitted before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 6.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.