

12 March 2010

Senator Jonathan A. Harris  
Representative Elizabeth B. Ritter  
Co-Chairs  
Public Health Committee  
Room 3000  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Senator Harris & Representative Ritter:

On behalf of LifeChoice Donor Services and New England Organ Bank, the Federally designated organ and tissue procurement organizations in Connecticut, we support the updated Section 65 Subsection (b) of Raised Bill SB428, An Act Concerning Revisions To The Public Health Related Statutes. There continues to be a critical shortage of organs and tissues for transplantation. CT has 1,200 candidates on the waiting list: 1,028 waiting a kidney transplant, 113 liver, 19 pancreas, 18 Kidney/Pancreas, and 19 awaiting a heart transplant.

- \* The purpose of this section of the bill would provide another venue for CT residents to show their support of life saving organ and tissue transplantation.
- \* This bill would also provide an annual opportunity to make a designation decision rather than the normal six year license/state ID renewal cycle.
- \* This bill would increase decision making access to all CT tax payers in addition to those CT residents who have already have decision making access through their License or state ID.
- \* The bill also provides for transfer of registered donor's information to the Department of Motor vehicles' database that both LifeChoice Donor Services and New England Organ Bank have indirect access to under Section 14-42a of Public Act No. 05-121

Thank you for considering this important bill in support of organ and tissue donation.

Respectfully,

*Charles MacKenzie*

Education Manager  
LifeChoice Donor Services  
Windsor, CT