



The Human Organ Preservation & Expansion (HOPE) Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1 **SECTION 1.** The United States federal government recognizes that thousands of Americans die each
2 year while waiting for organ transplants, that the current voluntary donor system does not
3 produce available organs and that families often face long and uncertain wait times.
4 Therefore, the United States federal government shall establish a national organ donation
5 opt-out system.

6 **SECTION 2.** A. For this legislation, "Opt-out system" means a system in which individuals are presumed
7 to consent to after death organ donation unless they formally register a decision not to
8 participate.

9 B. "National donor registry" means the federal database that records individuals who
10 choose to opt out of organ donation under this Act.

11 C. "Organ donation" means the after-death donation of organs and tissues for medical
12 transplantation, as recognized by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

13 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) shall oversee the implementation
14 and administration of the national organ donation opt-out system established under this
15 Act.

16 A. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) shall maintain and operate
17 the national donor registry, including recording opt-out decisions and ensuring secure
18 data management.

19 B. Hospitals and transplant centers shall verify an individual's opt-out status through the
20 national donor registry at the time of medical determination of death. Failure to
21 comply with verification procedures may result in administrative penalties as
22 determined by HHS.

23 C. Congress shall authorize \$75,000,000 annually to establish, operate, and maintain the
24 national organ donation opt-out system and the national donor registry created under
25 this Act.

26 D. All funds appropriated under this Act shall be administered by the Department of
27 Health and Human Services (HHS) for the purposes of system development, registry
28 maintenance, data security, and public awareness

29 E. All children under the age of 18 shall not be eligible to opt-out without their legal
30 guardians' consent.

31 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on FY 2028.

SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by Kingwood High School.