



Gordon Bowen, CEO
Lifebanc

Barry Massa, CEO
LifeCenter Organ Donor Network

Andrew Mullins, CEO
Lifeline of Ohio

Matthew Wadsworth, CEO
Life Connection of Ohio

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On behalf of Donate Life Ohio, a coalition including the state's four organ procurement organizations (OPOs) responsible for facilitating organ and tissue donation in Ohio, we are reaching out to express our strong support for House Bill 256, which proposes the inclusion of the donation question on hunting and fishing licenses in Ohio.

As you may be aware, there are currently nearly 3,000 Ohioans waiting for a life-saving organ transplant, and the nationwide figure exceeds 100,000 individuals. With approximately 1 million hunting and fishing licenses issued in Ohio on a yearly basis, this bill presents a unique opportunity to provide an additional avenue for individuals to make the crucial decision to register as organ donors.

Every day, 20 people lose their lives while waiting for a transplant. Given the recent extension of Ohio driver's licenses to eight years, there is a significant risk that some individuals may not be asked about organ donation for nearly a decade. HB256 is instrumental in bridging this gap by affording Ohioans one more chance to make the life-saving choice to become an organ donor.

By integrating the donation question into hunting and fishing license applications, we can reach individuals who may not have previously been offered the opportunity to register as donors. This bill aligns with our shared commitment to saving lives through organ and tissue donation and ensuring that the decision to become a donor is accessible to all Ohioans.

Your support for HB256 would not only contribute to the well-being of those waiting for a transplant but also exemplify Ohio's dedication to fostering a culture of generosity and compassion. We kindly urge you to champion this crucial initiative and help bring hope to those in need.

Sincerely,

Gordon Bowen, CEO
Lifebanc
gordonb@lifebanc.org

Matthew Wadsworth, CEO
Life Connection of Ohio
mwadsworth@lifeconnection.org

Barry Massa, CEO
LifeCenter Organ Donor Network
bmassa@lifepassiton.org

Andrew Mullins, CEO
Lifeline of Ohio
amullins@lifelineofohio.org