

April 24, 2024

The Honorable Steve Huffman
Chair, Senate Health Committee
The Ohio Senate
Ohio Statehouse
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Chairman Huffman, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Ohio Senate Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on HB 256.

UC Health proudly provides world-class care to all injured and critically ill patients in our community. Our tripartite mission to provide life-saving clinical care, generate innovative research, and educate the next generations of medical providers all underscore our goal to improve the comprehensive care of transplant and organ donation in the Greater Cincinnati region. The UC Health Transplant Program provides kidney transplantation services and is the only adult liver, pancreas, and heart transplantation provider in southwestern Ohio. In calendar year (CY) 2022 the UC Health Transplant Program performed almost 400 organ transplant procedures.

HB 256 would expand the registration for organ donation to a wider population in Ohio by integrating organ donation registration with the application of hunting and fishing licenses. This would increase the broader pool of potential donors and increase the chances of finding compatible organs for those currently in desperate need. Furthermore, this bill would serve as an excellent means of raising awareness regarding the critical shortage of organ donors and would encourage those discussions among many Ohioans. Organ donation has the power to save lives and this bill would provide an additional avenue for Ohioans to become an Organ Donor. UC Health supports HB 256 and respectfully requests the Ohio Senate Health Committee favorably report this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Corey King'.

Corey King, M.B.A., M.H.A

Executive Administrative Director, Transplantation Services, UC Health