



1730 Twin Springs Road
Suite 200
Baltimore, MD 21227
1.866.MD.DONOR

**SB 574 Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Fund
Annual Funding and Extension
FAVORABLE**

March 31, 2022

Hon. Shane Pendergrass
Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241, House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Pendergrass, Vicechair Pena-Melnyk, and Committee Members,

On behalf of Donate Life Maryland and the more than 3,600 Marylanders awaiting a life-saving organ transplant, thank you for your continued support of organ and tissue donation. Our mission is to save and enhance lives by registering organ, eye and tissue donors, providing public education and awareness about organ, eye and tissue donation in Maryland. With our vision to ensure every Marylander can make an educated decision about organ, eye and tissue donation.

As the state-authorized nonprofit responsible for managing the Maryland donor registry, we are honored to work with and support Maryland's two federally designated organ procurement organizations, the Washington Regional Transplant Community and the Living Legacy Foundation.

SB 574 will provide continuation of the necessary funding to ensure Marylanders continue to register as organ, eye and tissue donors, while helping to maintain the current organ donor registry of over 2.6 million Marylanders. This bill will ensure there is no interruption in the promotion of public education and awareness regarding organ, eye and tissue donation, while also maintaining the donor registry. By continuing this funding, Donate Life Maryland, in conjunction with The Living Legacy Foundation and Washington Regional Transplant Community, will ensure that every Marylander is able to make an educated decision about organ, eye and tissue donation and register as a donor.

Since our inception in 2009, Donate Life Maryland has provided much needed outreach and education on the importance of this cause. Launched in 2009, the Maryland Donor Registry securely and confidentially contains the names of those over 2.6 million Marylanders who have registered indicating their desire to be organ, eye and tissue donor. In partnership with the Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration, Donate Life Maryland not only trains new employees on the importance of organ, eye, and tissue donation, but also ensures the motor vehicle administration has sufficient brochures and handouts to answer any questions a new registrant may have.

**What can YOU make possible? Register TODAY to be an organ, eye and tissue donor!
To become a donor visit: register.donatelifemaryland.org**



1730 Twin Springs Road
Suite 200
Baltimore, MD 21227
1.866.MD.DONOR

In 2016, Donate Life Maryland partnered with The Living Legacy Foundation on The Decision Project. This data driven grassroots initiative identifies priority areas that focus on health disparities and improving relationships among the Maryland community. By working to target these priority areas, Donate Life Maryland and LLF ensures that those priority areas are supported and educated on organ, eye and tissue donation.

As Donate Life Maryland continues to work to raise awareness of organ, eye and tissue donation, we also work to save lives. Each organ donor can save up to 8 lives, and up to 75 lives through tissue donation. These incredible gifts restore health, extend life, and heal many people each year.

By passing SB574 Donate Life Maryland will be able to continue donor education and awareness, increase donor designations, foster lasting relationships, identify barriers, and continue to save lives by registering donors.

We sincerely appreciate the legislature's ongoing support of our efforts and your role in helping us save lives and honor donors, their families, and the very grateful recipients whose lives are changed through organ and tissue donation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa M. Spicknall".

Lisa Spicknall
Executive Director
Donate Life Maryland

**What can YOU make possible? Register TODAY to be an organ, eye and tissue donor!
To become a donor visit: register.donatelifemaryland.org**



Saving and enhancing lives by registering organ, eye and tissue donors.

We are the state-authorized nonprofit organization responsible for managing the Maryland Donor Registry.

Established in 2007, DLM works closely with the two federally designated nonprofit organ procurement organizations serving Maryland, The Living Legacy Foundation of Maryland (LLF) and the Washington Regional Transplant Community (WRTC).

In addition to managing and operating the Maryland Donor Registry, DLM, in partnership with The LLF and WRTC, helps spread the word about organ, eye and tissue donation and how to register as a donor in Maryland.

VISION

EVERY Marylander can make an educated decision about organ, eye and tissue donation and registering as a donor.

Quality Commitment

In collaboration with our OPO partners, we strive to further our mission of saving and enhancing lives by registering organ, eye and tissue donors.

Registered over 2.2 Million Donors.

Since 2009

Lobbied for numerous lifesaving laws in Maryland.

Provides outreach and education on the importance of organ, eye and tissue donation.

Over 3,000 Marylanders are currently waiting for a life-saving transplant.

www.donatelifemaryland.org



info@donatelifemaryland.org