

HB 1050: State Department of Education - Organ Donation - Development of Educational Materials: Please vote to **OPPOSE** this bill.

Dear Ways & Means Committee:

I am writing to strongly urge you to **OPPOSE HB 1050** during committee consideration or floor votes.

While organ donation is a valuable and lifesaving topic, mandating or strongly encouraging its inclusion in school curricula represents unnecessary government overreach into sensitive family and ethical matters.

Organ donation involves deeply personal, moral, religious, and philosophical beliefs that vary widely among families. Parents—not the state—should decide when, how, and whether to discuss such topics with their children. **Requiring schools to teach organ donation materials will introduce content that conflicts with family values, religious teachings, or cultural perspectives without parental consent or opt-out mechanisms that are robust enough to protect diverse viewpoints. Public schools already face packed curricula focused on core academics, literacy, math, science, and history; diverting time and resources to a specific advocacy topic like organ donation—however well-intentioned—dilutes focus on essential learning priorities.**

Existing health education frameworks, family discussions, community organizations, driver's education programs, and voluntary registration campaigns already provide ample opportunities to educate the public about organ donation. **The state should not mandate or push curriculum content on this issue through the Department of Education, especially when it could be perceived as promoting a particular viewpoint rather than neutral education.**

For these reasons, I respectfully ask you to **vote against HB 1050.**

Thank you for your time and consideration of my concerns regarding this important education matter.

Sincerely,

Trudy Tibbals