

HB 151 -- INCOME TAX CHECK-OFF FOR ORGAN DONOR PROGRAM FUND

SPONSOR: Kelly (24)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Ways and Means by a vote of 12 to 0.

Beginning January 1, 2011, this bill authorizes a check-off box for the Organ Donor Program Fund to be added to the individual and corporate income tax forms. A taxpayer may donate to the fund by designating on the form at least \$2 on an individual return or \$4 on a combined return of his or her tax refund amount or by sending a separate check with the payment of his or her taxes.

The provisions of the bill will expire December 31 six years from the effective date.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on General Revenue Fund in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014. Estimated Net Income on Other State Funds of More than \$100,000 in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that Missourians overwhelmingly support organ and tissue donation. Since the adoption of the original funding mechanism for the Organ Donor Program Fund, motor vehicle licensing laws have changed reducing revenue to the fund because vehicles are registered every other year instead of every year. An income tax check-off is an established mechanism that should be used to support this program.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Kelly (24); Ronald Walkenbuch; Peter Nicastro, Governor's Organ Donation Advisory Committee; Armstrong Teasdale LLP; and Sherry Doctorian, Midwest Transplant Network.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.