

## Review of Human Tissue Laws: Discussion Paper (2025)

I have general agreement with the proposals in the discussion paper. In preference to answering individual questions, I would like to pose three main changes to this legislation. It would be greatly appreciated if they could be worked into the legislation in appropriate places.

1. I think it is imperative that the **opt out** system be implemented as soon as possible.  
Reason: Only 1% of people pass away in circumstances appropriate to donate a kidney for example. Many of these people are not registered organ donors. This number is further reduced by family members who overturn the deceased's wishes. This causes a long waiting list and most will die waiting. Implementing the opt out system should provide adequate resources to provide an organ for everyone that needs one.
2. If the opt out system cannot be implemented quickly, then the way that legislation requires the medic to ask permission from the family of a deceased registered organ donor, should be altered.  
How: Instead of asking the family if they can approve the organ donation, it should be reworded so that if the family oppose the organ donation, then they need to make a formal application to override their loved one's wishes. This does not remove any rights but changes the focus and will reduce the number of overrides.
3. I feel strongly that the process of selecting recipients from the waiting list needs to be established and transparent. I feel there should be oversight for this decision and it should not be left up to the surgeon to decide.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and I pray you consider carefully and propose these amendments in order to save more lives.

With much gratitude

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