

---

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6667**

---

**State of Washington**

**55th Legislature**

**1998 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Government Operations (originally sponsored by Senators B. Sheldon, Winsley, Snyder, T. Sheldon, Fairley, McAuliffe, Brown, Kohl, Rasmussen, Prentice, Patterson, Haugen, Loveland, Hargrove, Kline, Franklin, Wojahn, Jacobsen and Bauer)

Read first time 02/06/98.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington gift of life medal; and adding a  
2 new chapter to Title 1 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that persons who  
5 donate organs help save the lives and promote the well-being of others  
6 in a manner that demonstrates the noblest side of human nature. Many  
7 families and friends of both the donors and the donees may want to  
8 remember the special act of donation in a way that honors the memory of  
9 the donor and encourages donation by others in the future.

10 To recognize the special kindness of those who donate their organs,  
11 the legislature establishes the Washington gift of life medal.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Unless the context clearly requires  
13 otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this  
14 chapter.

15 (1) "Organ donor" means an individual who makes an anatomical gift  
16 as specified in RCW 68.50.530(1).

17 (2) "Organ procurement organization" means any accredited or  
18 certified organ or eye bank.

1 (3) "Person" means a person specified in RCW 68.50.550.

2 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Application for the Washington gift of life  
3 medal shall be made as follows:

4 (1) Family members of an organ donor may apply to the governor's  
5 office to receive a Washington gift of life medal.

6 (2) An accredited or a federally certified organ procurement  
7 organization through which a person made an organ donation and  
8 requested a gift of life medal may apply to the governor's office on  
9 behalf of the person or family members.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The governor's office shall award a  
11 Washington gift of life medal to all eligible families or persons under  
12 the following conditions:

13 (a) The organ procurement organization shall determine whether the  
14 individual or person requesting the medal is eligible under this  
15 section to receive the medal described in section 5 of this act and  
16 shall submit documentation supporting the eligibility of the individual  
17 or person to the governor's office. If more than one organ procurement  
18 organization is involved, they shall coordinate in harmony to designate  
19 by consensus the organ procurement organization among them to have  
20 primary administrative responsibility under this chapter.

21 (b) The governor's office shall award the medal and direct the  
22 primary organ procurement organization to arrange for the presentation  
23 to a family or person who requested a medal under this section and who  
24 has been determined by the organ procurement organization to be  
25 eligible to receive a medal under this section.

26 (2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection and subsection  
27 (3) of this section, only one medal may be presented to the family of  
28 an organ donor.

29 (b) In the case of a family in which more than one member is an  
30 organ donor, the governor shall award and the primary organ procurement  
31 organization shall present an additional medal on behalf of each organ  
32 donor to his or her eligible family.

33 (3)(a) Duplicate medals may be purchased by the family or person  
34 eligible to receive the medal. The price of the duplicate medal shall  
35 be sufficient to cover its cost.

36 (b) Anyone not eligible to receive a medal under this chapter may  
37 request from the eligible family or person permission to purchase

1 duplicate medals. The family's or person's decision to grant or  
2 withhold permission shall be in writing and shall be final. The  
3 family's or person's decision shall be honored by the governor.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The Washington gift of life medal shall be  
5 of bronze and shall consist of the seal of the state of Washington,  
6 surrounded by a raised laurel wreath and suspended from a ring attached  
7 by a dark green ribbon. The reverse of the decoration within the  
8 raised laurel wreath shall be inscribed with the words: "For the  
9 greatest act of kindness in donating organs to enhance the lives of  
10 others."

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act constitute  
12 a new chapter in Title 1 RCW.

--- END ---