



Transplant Times

Organ Transplant Awareness Program

October 2021

Promoting Organ Donor Awareness; Supporting the Transplant Community

The support group will meet, Friday, October 2, 2021, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Evelyn's home please email me for directions - rioreal@earthlink.net

Hello and Happy Fall!

I saw a funny shirt today that said "Zombies don't scare me, I've had an organ transplant." I consider my scar a testament to my resilience.

Once again we are campaigning to increase the number of avenues in which to register to be an organ donor. We are asking that the Anatomical Gift on License bill (SB 251) be added to Governor Lujan Grisham's agenda for the 2022 Special Legislative Session. I am hoping that you will all send an email, letter, or make a phone call, requesting her support. This newsletter includes the letter I sent and a brief template for your use. You are welcome to send a brief email via the website link or mail a letter. I have also asked our local transplant centers and my transplant center, University of Colorado. It is important that we garner support from all constituencies so that our governor will act.



602.777.1111



Transplant Recipient Anniversary

Renee Roybal

Heart

October 10, 2002

**Christy Fields
Janet Herbert**

**Kidney
Chisty's Donor**

October 17, 2002

Gerry Colman

Liver

October 20, 2002

The Honorable Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor of New Mexico
490 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 400
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Governor Lujan Grisham,

As a grateful recipient of a liver donation, I am asking that you include the subject of Anatomical Gift options (SB 251) on your call for the 30-day session in January, 2022. SB 251, introduced by Senator Ortiz y Pino, would simply broaden the donor designation to allow those applying for recreational and professional licenses to easily assert their wishes regarding organ donation.

This legislation is necessary for the following reasons:

- Approximately 750 New Mexicans remain on the waiting list, clinging to the hope that a life-saving organ will become available. The average wait time for a kidney is 4-5 years.
- The government plays a crucial role in saving lives. Consider this: A whopping 97 percent of those who have registered their first-person authorization to be an organ donor signed up through the New Mexico Motor Vehicle Department. Can you imagine how many more could be donors if the avenues for registration were expanded?
- The segment of the population most affected are minorities who comprise 74 percent waitlist. The financial and psychological burdens are too great to ignore.

SB 251 would add an organ donor registration option on all professional and recreational license applications and renewals. In 2019, Iowa adopted "Logan's Law" "that allowed registration on hunting/fishing licenses." In the first year, almost 3,000 new donors were added.

Families of New Mexico will be grateful to count on your support once again. Please request that this vital issue be considered in the upcoming Special Legislative Session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Evelyn J. Rivera". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Honorable Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor of New Mexico
490 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 400
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

*** or send an email by going to: www.governor.state.nm.us)

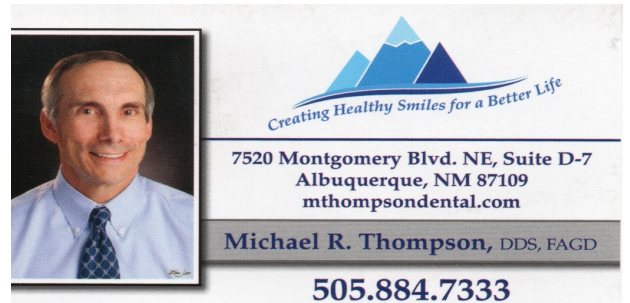
*** or call and leave message with staff 505-476-2200

Dear Governor Lujan Grisham,

As a grateful recipient of a liver donation (**replace with your connection to the cause, in other words tell your story.** "I am asking you to include the subject of Anatomical Gift options (SB 251) on your call for the 30-day session in January, 2022." (**must include**)

Add a paragraph elaborating on why this is important.

Sincerely,



AMAZON SMILE

Sign in to Amazon Smile and select **Organ Transplant Awareness Program of New Mexico.**

Amazon will make a donation to OTAP quarterly.

Or copy and paste this address to your browser:

Amazon Smile: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-3654972>

OTAP Mission Statement

The mission of Organ Transplant Awareness Program is to promote organ donation and support transplant community members including transplant candidates, donor families, living organ donors, transplant recipients, and transplant families. We promote organ donation by participating in a variety of community events. Our support group meets once a month for those who need support or are seeking information about the transplant process.

