

Tyler Patnaude's opening statement

"A Bill to be entitled: An Act to teach organ donation education."

Presented on December 5, 2009 at the Youth and Government District V conference:

In 1987 my grandpa who lives in Texas was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease. They put him on treatment, but unfortunately it brought on kidney failure. In 1998 his kidney function drop down to 10%. This is when they put him on dialysis. After a year, a kidney was donated and it's been 10 years since then and he's healthy.

My proposition is that all the health curriculums and drivers education programs add three additional organ donation lesson points to the curriculum. The first point needs to dispel all the plausible myths about the matter because these myths often scare people and turn them away from donating. Another thing would be to make sure there is a multimedia presentation of real life stories to show how it has help save the lives of individuals. This presentation will help people feel more comfortable about the subject. Finally, to ensure that the parents get the same information as the kids, a packet about organ donation should be sent home so the family can discuss the matter. They will be able to make an educated decision based on information they are taught

About 17 people die each month due to not having an organ. This bill will most definitely lower the number of deaths each year.

This is why we need to put these three additional items into the health and drivers education curriculums.