Organ Transplants and HIV

This Act directs that it is not a violation of law for a person to perform a solid organ transplant of an organ from an HIV-positive donor to a person who has tested positive for exposure to HIV or any other identified causative agent of AIDS and who is in immediate threat of death unless the transplant is performed. It also provides that a tissue bank that provides an organ from an HIV-positive donor under this provision may not be criminally or civilly liable for the furnishing that organ.

Submitted as:
Illinois
HB 3857 (enrolled version)
Status: Enacted into law in 2004.

Suggested State Legislation

(Title, enacting clause, etc.)

Section 1. [Short Title.] This Act may be cited as "An Act Concerning Solid Organ Transplants and the Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome."

Section 2. [Registry of Sperm and Tissue Banks.]
(a) The [Department] shall establish a registry of all sperm banks and tissue banks operating in this state. All sperm banks and tissue banks operating in this state shall register with the [Department] by [May 1] of each year. Any person, hospital, clinic, corporation, partnership, or other legal entity that operates a sperm bank or tissue bank in this state and fails to register with the [Department] pursuant to this Section commits a business offense and shall be subject to a fine of [$5,000].

(b) All donors of semen for purposes of artificial insemination, or donors of corneas, bones, organs, or other human tissue for the purpose of injecting, transfusing, or transplanting any of them in the human body, shall be tested for evidence of exposure to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and any other identified causative agent of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) at the time of or after the donation but prior to the semen, corneas, bones, organs, or other human tissue being made available for that use. However, when in the opinion of the attending physician the life of a recipient of a bone, organ, or other human tissue donation would be jeopardized by delays caused by testing for evidence of exposure to HIV and any other causative agent of AIDS, testing shall not be required.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in [insert citation] a person may not intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, or negligently use the semen, corneas, bones, organs, or other human tissue of a donor unless the requirements of subsection (b) have been met. Except as otherwise provided in [insert citation], no person may intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, or negligently use the semen, corneas, bones, organs, or other human tissue of a donor who has tested positive for exposure to HIV or any other identified causative agent of AIDS. Violation of this subsection (c) shall be a [Class 4 felony].

(d) It is not a violation of this Section for a person to perform a solid organ transplant of an organ from an HIV infected donor to a person who has tested positive for exposure to HIV or any other identified causative agent of AIDS and who is in immediate threat of death unless the...
transplant is performed. A tissue bank that provides an organ from an HIV infected donor under this subsection may not be criminally or civilly liable for the furnishing of that organ under this subsection.

(e) For the purposes of this Section, "Human tissue" shall not be construed to mean whole blood or its component parts. "Tissue bank" means any facility or program that is involved in procuring, furnishing, donating, processing, or distributing corneas, bones, organs, or other human tissue for the purpose of injecting, transfusing, or transplanting any of them in the human body. "Solid organ transplant" means the surgical transplantation of internal organs including, but not limited to, the liver, kidney, pancreas, lungs, or heart. "Solid organ transplant" does not mean a bone marrow based transplant or a blood transfusion. "HIV infected donor" means a deceased donor who was infected with HIV or a living donor known to be infected with HIV and who is willing to donate a part or all of one or more of his or her organs. A determination of the donor's HIV infection is made by the donor's medical history or by specific tests that document HIV infection, such as HIV RNA or DNA, or by antibodies to HIV.

Section 3. [Severability.] [Insert severability clause.]

Section 4. [Repealer.] [Insert repealer clause.]

Section 5. [Effective Date.] [Insert effective date.]