

November 10, 2016

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 13

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.

CHAIR MILLS PRESENT AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBER.

1. RESOLVED, the following items are hereby received and filed:
 - a. COMM. 2M-13 (2016)
DANIEL MCMAHON: “Letter to Legislator Hardwick Regarding Veterans Hospital Parking Lot”
(Chair’s Motion)
 - b. COMM. 19D-9 (2016)
COUNTY ATTORNEY: “Transmittal of New Claims Against Erie County”
(Chair’s Motion)
 - c. COMM. 19M-5 (2016)
NYS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES: “Transmittal of Resolutions Adopted at 2016 Annual Meeting”
(Chair’s Motion)
 - d. COMM. 20E-14 (2016)
MORTON: “Letter to Chair of the Legislature Regarding Proposal for Evening Public Hearings”
(Chair’s Motion)
 - e. COMM. 20D-5 (2016)
COUNTY ATTORNEY: “Transmittal of New Claims Against Erie County”
(Chair’s Motion)
2. INTRO. 21-1 (2016)
MORTON, LORIGO & BURKE
WHEREAS, there are more than 120,000 Americans waiting for organ transplants and each year the weight grows longer with less than one in seven patients able to find a willing and compatible donor; and

WHEREAS, in New York State and across the nation living organ donation rates have dropped in recent years leaving many in need of organ transplant waiting even longer; and

WHEREAS, several problems have been identified and need to be addressed in order to help increase the rate of organ donation including removing financial barriers to donation, and providing lifetime follow-up care to donors; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that more long-term data on live donor outcomes is required to further mitigate risks to the donor’s health and to help better educate the patients, their families, and the public about living donation; and

WHEREAS, the attached report has offered many possible avenues to alleviate the barriers to living organ donation including providing tax deductions for lost wages and child care costs for donors, provision of insurance for donors for at least a year after the procedure, and allowing Medicaid to cover paired kidney donation for paired exchanges based off of a national database as opposed to requiring in-state pairing; and

WHEREAS, easing the route to living organ transplant will help reduce the immediate and long-term costs associated with organ donation and can help increase the rate of donation by as much as twenty five percent (25%) thereby saving lives across our state; and

WHEREAS, the report cites costs of less than \$6,000 per donor per year which amounts to a budgetary impact of \$3.6 million across the entire State of New York; and

WHEREAS, associated research further indicates a cost savings of \$18 million accruing to the state through the elimination of expenses for the care for the donation recipient prior to transplant, as recurring treatments like kidney dialysis are no longer necessary, and the transplant recipients are able to return to work.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOVLED, that this honorable body action by New York State to independently examine the fiscal and practical implications of implementing the policies in the attached report and to work together to ease the process of organ donation; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Western New York delegation to the New York State Senate and Assembly, the office of the Governor of the State of New York, Hon. Andrew M. Cuomo, the majority and minority leaders of both the New York State Senate and Assembly and any other party deemed necessary and proper.

(6-0)

KEVIN R. HARDWICK

CHAIR