

STATE OF NEW YORK

3920

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 30, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. DINOWITZ -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the civil service law, the labor law, the public health law, the education law, the tax law, the vehicle and traffic law, the judiciary law and the executive law, in relation to requiring certain state forms and applications to include space for registering in the "donate life registry" for organ, eye and tissue donations; and to repeal certain provisions of the public health law relating thereto

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The civil service law is amended by adding a new section
2 50-d to read as follows:

3 § 50-d. Organ, eye and tissue donation. The civil service department
4 and municipal commissions shall provide on each application provided
5 pursuant to section fifty of this title space for the applicant to
6 register in the "donate life registry" for organ, eye and tissue
7 donations established pursuant to section forty-three hundred ten of the
8 public health law with the following stated on the application in clear
9 and conspicuous type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate Life
10 Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". Neither the
11 civil service department nor municipal commissions shall maintain
12 records of any person who checks "skip this question". Failure to check
13 "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be construed to imply a
14 wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant under sixteen years of
15 age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent to make an anatomical
16 gift or registration in the donate life registry. Provided, that where
17 an applicant has previously consented to make an anatomical gift or
18 registered in the "donate life registry", failing to check a box shall
19 not impair such consent or registration.

20 § 2. The labor law is amended by adding a new section 596-a to read as
21 follows:

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 § 596-a. Organ, eye and tissue donation. The commissioner shall
2 provide on each claim for benefits made pursuant to section five hundred
3 ninety-six of this title space for the claimant to register in the
4 "donate life registry" for organ, eye and tissue donations established
5 pursuant to section forty-three hundred ten of the public health law
6 with the following stated on the application in clear and conspicuous
7 type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate Life Registry? Check
8 box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". The commissioner shall not main-
9 tain records of any person who checks "skip this question". Failure to
10 check "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be construed to
11 imply a wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant under sixteen
12 years of age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent to make an
13 anatomical gift or registration in the donate life registry. Provided,
14 that where a claimant has previously consented to make an anatomical
15 gift or registered in the "donate life registry", failing to check a box
16 shall not impair such consent or registration.

17 § 3. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 5 of section 4310 of the public
18 health law, as amended by section 2 of chapter 662 of the laws of 2024,
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 (a) Such organ, eye and tissue registration of consent to make an
21 anatomical gift can be made through: (i) indication made on the applica-
22 tion or renewal form of a driver's license, (ii) indication made on a
23 non-driver identification card application or renewal form, (iii) indi-
24 cation made on a voter registration form pursuant to subdivision five of
25 section 5-210 of the election law, (iv) indication made on the applica-
26 tion for, or manual renewal application by an account holder of, health
27 care coverage offered through the state health benefit exchange, (v)
28 enrollment through the donate life registry website, (vi) paper enroll-
29 ment submitted to the donate life registry, (vii) indication made on the
30 application or renewal form of a hunting, fishing or trapping license
31 issued pursuant to title seven of article eleven of the environmental
32 conservation law, (viii) indication made on transactions administered by
33 the office of temporary and disability assistance through the mybene-
34 fits.ny.gov website, or any such successor website[~~+~~]. (ix) indication
35 made on applications, renewals or related transactions for college
36 financial aid, grants, or scholarships offered or administered through
37 any website maintained by the higher education services corporation[~~+~~].
38 (x) indication made on transactions conducted through an individual's
39 electronic health records[~~+~~ or]. (xi) indication made on an application
40 for a civil service examination pursuant to section fifty of the civil
41 service law, (xii) indication made on a claim for unemployment benefits
42 made pursuant to section five hundred ninety-six of the labor law,
43 (xiii) indication made on an application for a certificate, license or
44 registration issued pursuant to article sixty-one of the education law,
45 (xiv) indication made on an application to practice a profession pursu-
46 ant to title eight of the education law, (xv) indication made on a
47 personal income tax return, (xvi) indication made on an application for
48 registration or renewal thereof of a motor vehicle, (xvii) indication
49 made on an application for admission to practice or on a biennial regis-
50 tration form pursuant to section four hundred sixty-four or four hundred
51 sixty-eight-a of the judiciary law, (xviii) indication made on an appli-
52 cation to conduct a profession or occupation which is licensed or regis-
53 tered by the department of state, or (xix) through any other method
54 identified by the commissioner. The department shall establish a means
55 by which to register the consent given by individuals who are sixteen or
56 seventeen years of age in the donate life registry, and shall make

1 registration available by any of the methods provided in subparagraphs
2 (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix), (x) ~~[and]~~ (xi),
3 ~~(xii), (xiii), (xiv), (xv), (xvi), (xvii), (xviii) and (xix)~~ of this
4 paragraph.

5 § 3-a. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 5 of section 4310 of the public
6 health law, as amended by section 3 of chapter 662 of the laws of 2024,
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) Such organ, eye and tissue registration of consent to make an
9 anatomical gift can be made through: (i) indication made on the applica-
10 tion or renewal form of a driver's license, (ii) indication made on a
11 non-driver identification card application or renewal form, (iii) indi-
12 cation made on a voter registration form pursuant to subdivision five of
13 section 5-210 of the election law, (iv) indication made on the applica-
14 tion for, or manual renewal application by an account holder of, health
15 care coverage offered through the NY State of Health, the official
16 Health Plan Marketplace, (v) enrollment through the donate life registry
17 website, (vi) paper enrollment submitted to the donate life registry,
18 (vii) indication made on the application or renewal form of a hunting,
19 fishing or trapping license issued pursuant to title seven of article
20 eleven of the environmental conservation law, (viii) indication made on
21 transactions administered by the office of temporary and disability
22 assistance through the mybenefits.ny.gov website, or any such successor
23 website~~[+]~~, (ix) indication made on applications, renewals or related
24 transactions for college financial aid, grants, or scholarships offered
25 or administered through any website maintained by the higher education
26 services corporation~~[+]~~, (x) indication made by an insured and/or appli-
27 cant for insurance during enrollments, renewals, and the initial process
28 for an insured in setting up an online member service portal with their
29 insurer for accident and health insurance policies and contracts issued
30 pursuant to article forty-four of this chapter, article forty-two of the
31 insurance law, or article forty-three of the insurance law, excepting
32 renewals made through the NY State of Health, the official Health Plan
33 Marketplace, other than those specifically referenced in subparagraph
34 (iv) of this paragraph and paragraph (v) of subdivision one of section
35 two hundred six of this chapter; and provided, however, that nothing in
36 this section shall apply to the medical assistance program under title
37 eleven of article five of the social services law~~[+]~~, (xi) indication
38 made on transactions conducted through an individual's electronic health
39 record~~[-or]~~, (xii) indication made on an application for a civil
40 service examination pursuant to section fifty of the civil service law,
41 (xiii) indication made on a claim for unemployment benefits made pursu-
42 ant to section five hundred ninety-six of the labor law, (xiv) indi-
43 cation made on an application for a certificate, license or registration
44 issued pursuant to article sixty-one of the education law, (xv) indi-
45 cation made on an application to practice a profession pursuant to title
46 eight of the education law, (xvi) indication made on a personal income
47 tax return, (xvii) indication made on an application for registration or
48 renewal thereof of a motor vehicle, (xviii) indication made on an appli-
49 cation for admission to practice or on a biennial registration form
50 pursuant to section four hundred sixty-four or four hundred
51 sixty-eight-a of the judiciary law, (xix) indication made on an applica-
52 tion to conduct a profession or occupation which is licensed or regis-
53 tered by the department of state, or (xx) through any other method iden-
54 tified by the commissioner. The department shall establish a means by
55 which to register the consent given by individuals who are sixteen or
56 seventeen years of age in the donate life registry, and shall make

1 registration available by any of the methods provided in subparagraphs
2 (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix), (x), (xi) ~~and~~,
3 (xii), (xiii), (xiv), (xv), (xvi), (xvii), (xviii), (xix) and (xx) of
4 this paragraph.

5 § 4. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subdivision 5 of section 4310 of the
6 public health law are REPEALED and a new paragraph (b) is added to read
7 as follows:

8 (b) Enrollment or amendment or revocation through the donate life
9 registry website through any of the means listed in this subdivision may
10 be signed by electronic signature, in accordance with the provisions of
11 article three of the state technology law, supported by the use of suit-
12 able mechanisms including unique identifiers to provide confidence in
13 the identity of the person providing the electronic signature. The
14 registration shall take effect upon the provision of written or elec-
15 tronic notice of the registration to the individual enrolling in the
16 donate life registry.

17 § 5. Paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) of subdivision 5 of section 4310 of
18 the public health law are relettered paragraphs (c), (d) and (e).

19 § 6. Subdivision 1 of section 206 of the public health law is amended
20 by adding eight new paragraphs (x), (y), (z), (aa), (bb), (cc), (dd) and
21 (ee) to read as follows:

22 (x) require, in consultation and cooperation with the civil service
23 department and municipal commissions, that every individual applying for
24 a civil service examination be provided space so that such applicant may
25 register in the "donate life registry" for organ, eye and tissue
26 donations under section forty-three hundred ten of this chapter with the
27 following stated in clear conspicuous type: "Would you like to be added
28 to the Donate Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this ques-
29 tion'". Neither the civil service department nor municipal commissions
30 shall maintain records of any person who checks "skip this question".
31 Except where the application is made in person or electronically, fail-
32 ure to check a box shall not impair the validity of an application, and
33 failure to check "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be
34 construed to imply a wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant
35 under sixteen years of age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent
36 to make an anatomical gift or registration in the donate life registry.
37 Where an applicant has previously consented to make an anatomical gift
38 or registered in the donate life registry, checking "skip this question"
39 or failing to check a box shall not impair that consent or registration.

40 (y) require, in consultation and cooperation with the commissioner of
41 the department of labor, that every individual filing a claim for unem-
42 ployment benefits be provided space so that such applicant may register
43 in the "donate life registry" for organ, eye and tissue donations under
44 section forty-three hundred ten of this chapter with the following stat-
45 ed in clear conspicuous type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate
46 Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". The commis-
47 sioner shall not maintain records of any person who checks "skip this
48 question". Except where the claim for benefits is made in person or
49 electronically, failure to check a box shall not impair the validity of
50 an application, and failure to check "yes" or checking "skip this ques-
51 tion" shall not be construed to imply a wish not to donate. In the case
52 of a claimant under sixteen years of age, checking "yes" shall not
53 constitute consent to make an anatomical gift or registration in the
54 donate life registry. Where a claimant has previously consented to make
55 an anatomical gift or registered in the donate life registry, checking

1 "skip this question" or failing to check a box shall not impair that
2 consent or registration.

3 (z) require, in consultation and cooperation with the commissioner of
4 education, that every individual applying for a certificate, license or
5 registration issued pursuant to article sixty-one of the education law,
6 be provided space so that such applicant may register in the "donate
7 life registry" for organ, eye and tissue donations under section forty-
8 three hundred ten of this chapter with the following stated in clear
9 conspicuous type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate Life Regis-
10 try? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". The commissioner
11 shall not maintain records of any person who checks "skip this ques-
12 tion". Except where the application is made in person or electronically,
13 failure to check a box shall not impair the validity of an application,
14 and failure to check "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be
15 construed to imply a wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant
16 under sixteen years of age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent
17 to make an anatomical gift or registration in the donate life registry.
18 Where an applicant has previously consented to make an anatomical gift
19 or registered in the donate life registry, checking "skip this question"
20 or failing to check a box shall not impair that consent or registration.

21 (aa) require, in consultation and cooperation with the commissioner of
22 education, that every individual applying to practice a profession
23 pursuant to title eight of the education law, be provided space so that
24 such applicant may register in the "donate life registry" for organ, eye
25 and tissue donations under section forty-three hundred ten of this chap-
26 ter with the following stated in clear conspicuous type: "Would you like
27 to be added to the Donate Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip
28 this question'". The commissioner shall not maintain records of any
29 person who checks "skip this question". Except where the application is
30 made in person or electronically, failure to check a box shall not
31 impair the validity of an application, and failure to check "yes" or
32 checking "skip this question" shall not be construed to imply a wish not
33 to donate. In the case of an applicant under sixteen years of age,
34 checking "yes" shall not constitute consent to make an anatomical gift
35 or registration in the donate life registry. Where an applicant has
36 previously consented to make an anatomical gift or registered in the
37 donate life registry, checking "skip this question" or failing to check
38 a box shall not impair that consent or registration.

39 (bb) require, in consultation and cooperation with the department of
40 taxation and finance, that every individual filing a personal income tax
41 return be provided space so that such applicant may register in the
42 "donate life registry" for organ, eye and tissue donations under section
43 forty-three hundred ten of this chapter with the following stated in
44 clear conspicuous type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate Life
45 Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". The commissioner
46 shall not maintain records of any person who checks "skip this ques-
47 tion". Except where the application is made in person or electronically,
48 failure to check a box shall not impair the validity of an application,
49 and failure to check "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be
50 construed to imply a wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant
51 under sixteen years of age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent
52 to make an anatomical gift or registration in the donate life registry.
53 Where an applicant has previously consented to make an anatomical gift
54 or registered in the donate life registry, checking "skip this question"
55 or failing to check a box shall not impair that consent or registration.

1 (cc) require, in consultation and cooperation with the commissioner of
2 motor vehicles, that every individual applying for a registration or
3 renewal thereof of a motor vehicle be provided space so that such appli-
4 cant may register in the "donate life registry" for organ, eye and
5 tissue donations under section forty-three hundred ten of this chapter
6 with the following stated in clear conspicuous type: "Would you like to
7 be added to the Donate Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this
8 question'". The commissioner shall not maintain records of any person
9 who checks "skip this question". Except where the application is made in
10 person or electronically, failure to check a box shall not impair the
11 validity of an application, and failure to check "yes" or checking "skip
12 this question" shall not be construed to imply a wish not to donate. In
13 the case of an applicant under sixteen years of age, checking "yes"
14 shall not constitute consent to make an anatomical gift or registration
15 in the donate life registry. Where an applicant has previously consented
16 to make an anatomical gift or registered in the donate life registry,
17 checking "skip this question" or failing to check a box shall not impair
18 that consent or registration.

19 (dd) require, in consultation and cooperation with the state board of
20 law examiners, that every individual applying for admission to practice
21 or on a biennial registration form pursuant to section four hundred
22 sixty-four or four hundred sixty-eight-a of the judiciary law, be
23 provided space so that such applicant may register in the "donate life
24 registry" for organ, eye and tissue donations under section forty-three
25 hundred ten of this chapter with the following stated in clear conspicu-
26 ous type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate Life Registry? Check
27 box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". The commissioner shall not main-
28 tain records of any person who checks "skip this question". Except where
29 the application is made in person or electronically, failure to check a
30 box shall not impair the validity of an application, and failure to
31 check "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be construed to
32 imply a wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant under sixteen
33 years of age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent to make an
34 anatomical gift or registration in the donate life registry. Where an
35 applicant has previously consented to make an anatomical gift or regis-
36 tered in the donate life registry, checking "skip this question" or
37 failing to check a box shall not impair that consent or registration.

38 (ee) require, in consultation and cooperation with the secretary of
39 state, that every individual applying to conduct a profession or occupa-
40 tion which is licensed or registered by the department of state be
41 provided space so that such applicant may register in the "donate life
42 registry" for organ, eye and tissue donations under section forty-three
43 hundred ten of this chapter with the following stated in clear conspicu-
44 ous type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate Life Registry? Check
45 box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". The commissioner shall not main-
46 tain records of any person who checks "skip this question". Except where
47 the application is made in person or electronically, failure to check a
48 box shall not impair the validity of an application, and failure to
49 check "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be construed to
50 imply a wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant under sixteen
51 years of age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent to make an
52 anatomical gift or registration in the donate life registry. Where an
53 applicant has previously consented to make an anatomical gift or regis-
54 tered in the donate life registry, checking "skip this question" or
55 failing to check a box shall not impair that consent or registration.

§ 7. Section 3006 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 4 to read as follows:

4. Organ, eye and tissue donation. The commissioner shall provide on each application for a certificate, license or registration issued pursuant to this article, and each renewal thereof, space for the applicant to register in the "donate life registry" for organ, eye and tissue donations established pursuant to section forty-three hundred ten of the public health law with the following stated on the application in clear and conspicuous type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". The regents shall not maintain records of any person who checks "skip this question". Failure to check "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be construed to imply a wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant under sixteen years of age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent to make an anatomical gift or registration in the donate life registry. Provided, that where an applicant has previously consented to make an anatomical gift or registered in the "donate life registry", failing to check a box shall not impair such consent or registration.

§ 8. Section 6501 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 3 to read as follows:

3. The regents shall provide, on each application to practice a profession pursuant to this title and each application for renewal of a license, registration or certification to practice such a profession, space for the applicant to register in the "donate life registry" of organ, eye and tissue donations established pursuant to section forty-three hundred ten of the public health law with the following stated on the application in clear and conspicuous type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". The regents shall not maintain records of any person who checks "skip this question". Failure to check "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be construed to imply a wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant under sixteen years of age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent to make an anatomical gift or registration in the donate life registry. Provided, that where an applicant has previously consented to make an anatomical gift or registered in the "donate life registry", failing to check a box shall not impair such consent or registration.

§ 9. Section 651 of the tax law is amended by adding a new subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) Organ, eye and tissue donation. The commissioner shall provide on each return space for the taxpayer or taxpayers to register in the "donate life registry" for organ, eye and tissue donations established pursuant to section forty-three hundred ten of the public health law with the following stated on the application in clear and conspicuous type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". The commissioner shall not maintain records of any person who checks "skip this question". Failure to check "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be construed to imply a wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant under sixteen years of age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent to make an anatomical gift or registration in the donate life registry. Provided, that where a taxpayer has previously consented to make an anatomical gift or registered in the "donate life registry", failing to check a box shall not impair such consent or registration.

§ 10. Paragraph b of subdivision 1 of section 401 of the vehicle and traffic law is amended by adding a new closing paragraph to read as follows:

The commissioner shall provide on each application for registration and renewal thereof space for the motor vehicle owner to register in the "donate life registry" for organ, eye and tissue donations established pursuant to section forty-three hundred ten of the public health law with the following stated on the application in clear and conspicuous type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". The commissioner shall not maintain records of any person who checks "skip this question". Failure to check "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be construed to imply a wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant under sixteen years of age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent to make an anatomical gift or registration in the donate life registry. Provided, that where a motor vehicle owner has previously consented to make an anatomical gift or registered in the "donate life registry", failing to check a box shall not impair such consent or registration.

§ 11. Section 464 of the judiciary law is amended by adding a new closing paragraph to read as follows:

The chief administrator of the courts shall provide on each application for admission to practice, space for the applicant to register in the "donate life registry" for organ, eye and tissue donations established pursuant to section forty-three hundred ten of the public health law with the following stated on the application in clear and conspicuous type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". The chief administrator of the courts shall not maintain records of any person who checks "skip this question". Failure to check "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be construed to imply a wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant under sixteen years of age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent to make an anatomical gift or registration in the donate life registry. Provided, that where an applicant has previously consented to make an anatomical gift or registered in the "donate life registry", failing to check a box shall not impair such consent or registration.

§ 12. Section 468-a of the judiciary law is amended by adding a new subdivision 4-a to read as follows:

4-a. The chief administrator shall provide on each biennial registration form space for the attorney to register in the "donate life registry" for organ, eye and tissue donations established pursuant to section forty-three hundred ten of the public health law with the following stated on the application in clear and conspicuous type: "Would you like to be added to the Donate Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this question'". The chief administrator shall not maintain records of any person who checks "skip this question". Failure to check "yes" or checking "skip this question" shall not be construed to imply a wish not to donate. In the case of an applicant under sixteen years of age, checking "yes" shall not constitute consent to make an anatomical gift or registration in the donate life registry. Provided, that where an attorney has previously consented to make an anatomical gift or registered in the "donate life registry", failing to check a box shall not impair such consent or registration.

§ 13. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 91-a to read as follows:

1 § 91-a. Organ, eye and tissue donation. The secretary shall provide
2 on each application to conduct a profession or occupation which is
3 licensed or registered by the department, and each renewal thereof,
4 space for the applicant to register in the "donate life registry" for
5 organ, eye and tissue donations established pursuant to section forty-
6 three hundred ten of the public health law with the following stated on
7 the application in clear and conspicuous type: "Would you like to be
8 added to the Donate Life Registry? Check box for 'yes' or 'skip this
9 question'". The secretary shall not maintain records of any person who
10 checks "skip this question". Failure to check "yes" or checking "skip
11 this question" shall not be construed to imply a wish not to donate. In
12 the case of an applicant under sixteen years of age, checking "yes"
13 shall not constitute consent to make an anatomical gift or registration
14 in the donate life registry. Provided, that where an applicant has
15 previously consented to make an anatomical gift or registered in the
16 "donate life registry", failing to check a box shall not impair such
17 consent or registration.

18 § 14. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-
19 ing the date on which it shall have become a law; provided, however,
20 that section three-a of this act shall take effect on the same date and
21 in the same manner as section 3 of chapter 662 of the laws of 2024,
22 takes effect. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or
23 repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of
24 this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed
25 on or before such effective date.