

LEGISLATIVE BILL 541

Approved by the Governor February 19, 2020

Introduced by Walz, 15.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to anatomical gifts; to amend section 71-4819, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to public education regarding bone marrow donors; to provide powers and duties for the Department of Health and Human Services; to authorize the providing of bone marrow registry information to patients by physicians as prescribed; and to repeal the original section.
Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 71-4819, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

71-4819 (1) The Department of Health and Human Services shall educate residents of the state about:

- (a) The need for bone marrow donors;
- (b) Patient populations benefiting from bone marrow donations;
- (c) How to acquire a free buccal swab kit from a bone marrow registry;
- (d) ~~(b)~~ The procedures required to become registered as a potential bone marrow donor, including the procedures for determining tissue type; and
- (e) ~~(c)~~ The medical procedures a donor must undergo to donate bone marrow and the attendant risks of the procedures.

(2) The department shall provide information and educational materials to the public regarding bone marrow donation. The department shall seek assistance from the national marrow donor program to establish a system to distribute materials, ensure that the materials are updated periodically, and fully disclose the risks involved in donating bone marrow. The department shall make special efforts to educate and recruit persons of racial and ethnic minorities to volunteer as potential bone marrow donors.

(3) The department may use the press, radio, and television and may place educational materials in appropriate health care facilities, blood banks, and state and local agencies. The department, in conjunction with the Director of Motor Vehicles, shall make educational materials available at all places where motor vehicle operators' licenses are issued or renewed.

Sec. 2. Each physician may inquire of a new patient who is at least eighteen years of age and younger than forty-five years of age on the new patient's intake form as to whether the patient is registered with the bone marrow registry. If the patient states that the patient is not registered with the bone marrow registry, the physician may provide information developed and disseminated by the Department of Health and Human Services regarding the bone marrow registry to the patient.

Sec. 3. Original section 71-4819, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.