

called to the phone at work and answered the phone and said, this is Shari, and the words on the other end of this phone says, we have a match. You'll never realize unless you're put in that position what it means to hear the words, we have a match. Within eight hours, they flew from Scottsbluff, had to be in Pittsburgh. The donor came from Memphis, Tennessee. The surgery was performed and Allan celebrated his fifth anniversary last June. It will be six years this June. Those are the successes that can happen. They met a lot of people while they were in Pittsburgh, people that are in the same situation. I don't think we always realize how many that are out there and in the following January they received a letter from a couple that I also would very quickly like to share with you. It says, dear Allan and Shari, first of all, I hope we will always stay in touch and, secondly, I want you to know how much your letters have always meant to me and Ed, but my poor husband died on November 6th. I think his primary pulmonary hypertension was more advanced than Allan's and it sounded to me from your letters that Allan was much more with his heart and Ed's wasn't. I didn't want to ruin your Christmas or your Thanksgiving and, hence, my not writing sooner. I wanted you to have the joyous holidays you both deserve this year and 50 more I hope. She goes on to talk about what they did after her husband's death, what she did with the kids, and then she says my husband was one of the nicest guys and had such humor and kindness, life will go on but it won't be as good without him. His celebration, his funeral was a celebration of his life, not his crummy illness. What else can I say except to tell you sincerely that your letters were an inspiration and better than medicine and you gave us hope and courage and we both were so optimistic that a donor would be found and I'm so grateful for that. The donor was not found in time and these stories can be told over and over again. They did at the Transportation Committee. What I see here is the role of the state to be able to facilitate what I think is one of the most beautiful things people can do in sharing and that's extending life by giving a part of themselves. We now have the opportunity with the cooperation of the Department of Motor Vehicles to be able to facilitate this process to help people helping people. I would ask that you...if you have any questions about how that will be done, I'll be glad to answer them, but that you would advance the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hillman. Mr. Clerk, do you have an amendment on the desk?