

Submission number: 012
Email received from: Greg Lowe
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Good Morning

My name is Greg Lowe and I live in N.S.W.. Recently I had the pleasure of spending a few days in Brisbane with my wife. I read in the newspaper about organ donation and asking for submissions on how it can be improved. I have had an idea on how this may be improved so I thought it time to put pen to paper and raise my point.

Firstly I must assure you that I am not involved in any group or church which may or may not approve of my idea.

As with new mums the Federal Govt. makes a one off payment for having a baby. I believe this is \$5000.00. The idea I have is that if a person aged between 0 years and 50 years of age is a registered organ donor and ALL usable organs are donated then a one off payment of \$5000.00 be paid towards the cost of the funeral of the donor. No cash payment would be made available to any family members. This payment would be made through Centrelink or another government agency. I do not think that this is a payment for body parts as I don't think that the government owns the \$5000.00 babies it pays for. I am certain that if a poll was conducted then the idea would be a winner. There would be enormous cost savings for the government and the health system. Imagine that someone waiting for a kidney or heart transplant be given this chance to be able to have it without being on a long waiting list. The money saved by private health providers and public hospitals would be enormous with no waiting times or suffering by patients in need of an organ. I also think that with the savings a hospital dedicated only to transplants could be built with the savings. If this proposal was put out for discussion and taken up it could move Queensland to the front in transplant operations. I am sure someone will try and find an ethical reason why this should not be considered but the possibilities are enormous. We could have the best facilities and doctors working and developing new techniques in this area. I get really excited to think that this might be a possibility and I was very pleased to see that your government is actually taking a proactive interest in canvassing genuine comments from the public.

Please feel free to contact me should you require or need to speak to me
Thanks for the opportunity to pass on my idea to your committee.

Greg Lowe