April 6, 2022

Dear (YOUR MLA),

**RE: Letter of Support – Private Members’ BILL 205 – Human Tissue and Organ Donation Amendment Act**

I am writing you today in support of MLA RJ Sigurdson’s Private Members Bill 205, Human Tissue and Organ Donation (Mandatory Referral Act) Amendment Act, 2022. Legislative reform is essential for modernizing Alberta’s organ and tissue donation and transplantation (OTDT) system through the establishment of best practices.

MLA Sigurdson’s Bill is a major step forward toward modernizing Alberta’s OTDT system. Specifically, the proposal to replace mandatory consideration with mandatory referral will align Alberta with leading global OTDT systems because it will allow for timely identification, referral, and assessment of a potential donor.

To be clear, I respect an individual’s decision to consent or refuse to consent to donate. This clarity in the Bill ensures that the wishes of those who wish to donate are honoured and those who do not wish to donate are respected.

As an Albertan, I’ve seen how organ failure and organ donation impact the lives of our loved ones. Organ donation is the ultimate gift of life, but more is needed to ensure there are no missed donor opportunities.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I support Bill 205 as it provides an important step forward in addressing improvements in deceased organ and tissue donation and transplantation. I further support that the wishes of all Albertans to donate or not are respected and honoured as is stated in Bill 205. I share in a vision to strive for a greater future for all Albertans and saving lives through organ and tissue donation.

Sincerely,

CC: Jason Kenney, Premier of Alberta

 Jason Copping, Minister of Health

RJ Sigurdson, MLA for Highwood

 Rachel Notley, Leader of Her Majesty's Opposition & MLA for Edmonton-Strathcona

 The Kidney Foundation, Northern Alberta & The Territories Branch