

Written Testimony

In Support of HB 2622

An Act to Establish an Organ Donor Awareness Fund

January 29, 2019

Good afternoon House Health Committee,

My name is Nevaeh DeWitt, and I am twelve years old.

When I was 3 years old, my dad got really sick. This was scary, and it made me confused. I saw my dad being hooked to a machine. Sometimes he went to a dialysis clinic during the day. Sometimes he was at the clinic all night, and sometimes he even did it at home. For a few years, that was our life, but one day, he received a call telling him that they found a kidney for him. I was only 5 years old, but I still have many memories about that time.

We feel so grateful that my dad was able to receive a kidney transplant. We are grateful to his donor and their family for giving us that gift.

A few years ago, I started volunteering with my family at Donate Life Northwest events. I know that not everybody is lucky enough to receive a transplant. People can be on the waiting list for many years, but we can help by talking to the community about what they are facing or how to register as donors. I hope that this bill passes so we can help educate more people.

Thank you for your time.

Nevaeh Mariah DeWitt