



**EYE BANK
ASSOCIATION
of AMERICA**

October 19, 2006

Commissioner Carlyle C. Ring, Jr.
Chairman
Drafting Committee on the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act (2006)
National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws
211 E. Ontario Street, Suite 1300
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Commissioner Ring:

The Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA) is pleased to endorse the 2006 Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act as promulgated by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. The Revised Act will greatly enhance the opportunity for the donation and transplantation of precious life giving and life enhancing anatomical gifts. There is no greater gift one may offer another after one is deceased; the EBAA respects that the facilitation of this humanitarian act must be supported within the confines of law.

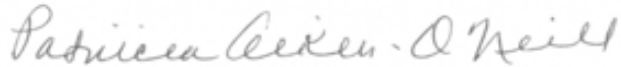
The EBAA was founded in 1961, under the auspices of the American Academy of Ophthalmology to support a network of not-for-profit eye banks to recover and provide ocular tissue for sight restoring transplantation procedures, medical education, and research to address blindness and other debilitating eye diseases. The gift of donation allows the Association's 83 member eye bank organizations to facilitate approximately 46,000 sight restoring transplants each year. As a result, transplant recipients have the opportunity to regain their vision and enjoy the privilege that so many of us take for granted -- that of seeing the world around us. The provision of ocular tissue for education and research has contributed to significant advances in the medical research of ocular disease. As our Nation's seniors live longer and vision issues confront the baby boom generation in record numbers, the challenge will be to meet an even greater demand for restoring sight and finding solutions to vision problems. The importance of anatomical gifting is paramount to meeting this challenge.

The Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act reflects updated donation practices and is harmonized with provisions in federal law and regulation. Uniformity among the states is critical to ensure that a donor's wishes will be honored to the greatest possible extent. Accordingly, we appeal to state legislatures to undertake a thorough review of their

respective states' anatomical gift laws and to make necessary changes to such laws pursuant the 2006 Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act.

The Revised Act was created with the active assistance of many stakeholders representing the donor community and the transplant field, including the EBAA. The final document represents the culmination of the best recommendations for the future of donation and greatly strengthens an individual's right to make anatomical gifts. The EBAA wholeheartedly supports the 2006 Revised Act and will work diligently with legislatures in the various states for final passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patricia Aiken-O'Neill". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a long, sweeping underline.

Patricia Aiken-O'Neill
President