

## **Bill Renames Donor Registry To Raise Public Awareness**

AUSTIN -- State Representative Veronica Gonzales (D-McAllen) saw passage of HB 2145 last week. The bill was joint-authored with Rep. Jodie Laubenberg (R-Collin), Rep. Vicki Truitt (R-Tarrant), Rep. Mike O'Day (R-Brazoria) and Rep. John Zerwas (R-Wharton) to rename the Texas organ donor registry program, "Glenda Dawson Donate Life - Texas Donor Registry", to benefit the program's mission promoting and educating the public on organ and tissue donation. The initiative also pays tribute to the longstanding commitment of the late Honorable Glenda Dawson, a donor recipient, who raised public awareness and of the organ donor registry in Texas.

"The general public's response to donating blood is successful because of public education campaigns. I am confident that our efforts will achieve similar public awareness and will also honor my former colleague, Rep. Dawson, who not only championed the organ donor registration, but was a recipient of a kidney donation," said Gonzales.

Nationally, more than half of states have renamed their state registries to reference "Donate Life" a nationally known non-profit. By renaming the registry to reference the national non-profit, the State's program will improve its campaign awareness among the public and share visibility to registries nationwide.