Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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Legislators Day and Jobson Introduce Legislation to Ease the Process of Organ Donation

New City, NY (April 19th, 2010) – Legislators Ed Day (New City-Haverstraw) and Doug Jobson (Stony Point-Haverstraw-Ramapo) have submitted a resolution calling for the New York State Legislature to pass pending legislation (S4999;A10664) designed to ease the process of organ donation.

Legislator Day said, "This legislation would eliminate an archaic obstacle and allow for a person desiring to become a donor to do so simply and effectively by permitting an electronic signature."

According to the New York Organ Donor Network, over 100,000 people are waiting for an organ, eyes, or tissue in order to live their life. Just one organ donor can save the lives of eight people, and fifty people can be helped by one tissue donor.

Presently, the State's Public Health Law does not permit anatomical gifts to be authorized via an electronic signature. Allowing this amendment would ease the process for organ donation and likely increase the numbers of people who will make anatomical gifts. Both Legislator Day and Jobson believe that, given the thousands of men, women, and children affected by a lack of donations, increasing anatomical gifts should be a vital public health goal.

"Given that so much of our communication is through electronic means, this is common sense legislation that will bring the whole matter of organ donation into the 21st century, benefitting so many in need," said Legislator Jobson.

Both legislators recently participated in the 16th annual "Transplants Save Lives Walk for Awareness" held at Rockland Lake State Park. It was at this event that they learned this legislation had hit a snag in the State legislature.

Legislator Day concluded by saying, "This is a classic example of why Doug and I view it as so important to attend as many community events as possible, as we learn about many critical issues from the folks we represent. We encourage our State legislature to take a moment and stop the finger pointing about the budget process, as the work of the people still needs to get done. We urge them to pass this legislation as soon as possible in order to help those who are praying for the miracle of life right now."

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