

Economic Analysis: HB17-1027

Each day an estimated 18 patients will die while waiting for an organ donation. Nationally, there are now over 120,000 people waiting for a transplant.<sup>1</sup> In Colorado, there are currently 2,500 candidates

individuals place on donation. Residents of opt-in countries such as German and the United States act of extraordinary altruism, while residents of opt-out countries such as Austria or

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significantly more popular than presumed consent,<sup>7</sup> despite generating similar increases in donor registration rates in controlled studies.<sup>8</sup> While HB17-1027 indisputably increases donorship by closing a loophole in the current law, either of these relatively minor shifts in policy would be more effective at increasing registration rates and their positive externalities.

In addition to creating positive externalities, expanding the organ donor registry can be considered a common good. Although the organ transplantation itself is a private good<sup>9</sup> a single organ can only be transferred to a single recipient<sup>10</sup> the organ donor registry resembles a common good in that no medically eligible candidate can be excluded from the



