

1997 SESSION

INTRODUCED

971548661

SENATE BILL NO. 766

Offered January 8, 1997

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 19.2-188.2, relating to criminal prosecutions; evidence; certificate of transplant surgeon.

Patron—Gartlan

Referred to the Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 19.2-188.2 as follows:

§ 19.2-188.2. Certificate of transplant surgeon as evidence.

A. In any criminal proceeding, the certificate of a duly qualified surgeon stating that he has removed organs or other body parts from a decedent for transplant in accordance with Chapter 8 (§ 32.1-277 et seq.) of Title 32.1, shall be admissible in evidence as evidence of the facts stated therein. The certificate shall be competent evidence to show that such organs or body parts were functional at the time of recovery and not affected by any injury or illness that caused the decedent's death.

B. A copy of the certificate shall be filed with the attorney for the Commonwealth in the jurisdiction in which the decedent's fatal injury occurred. The certificate shall not be admitted into evidence unless the attorney for the Commonwealth has provided a copy of the certificate to counsel for the defendant at least fourteen days prior to the proceeding in which it is to be offered into evidence.

C. Any such certificate purporting to be signed by the surgeon who performed the transplant shall be admissible in evidence without proof of seal or signature of the person whose name is signed to it.

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