SENATE BILL 210:
Organ and Tissue Donation/Heart Heroes.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:		**Date:**	January 6, 2020
Introduced by:		**Prepared by:**	Jessica Boney
Analysis of:	S.L. 2019-143		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: S.L. 2019-143 removes the exclusion of tissue as an anatomical gift authorized by the placement of a symbol on the donor's driver license or identification card.

The act became effective October 1, 2019.

CURRENT LAW: Part 3A of Article 16 of Chapter 130A of the General Statutes contains the Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act (UAGA) and does the following:

- Allows a donor to make an anatomical gift by authorizing the placement of a symbol on the donor's driver license or identification card. An anatomical gift authorization given in this manner excludes tissue and the donor's body. G.S. 130A-412.7(a).

- Defines "anatomical gift" as a donation of all or part of a human body to take effect after the donor's death for the purpose of transplantation, therapy, research, or education. G.S. 130A-412.4(3).

- Defines "tissue" as a portion of the human body other than an organ or an eye. The term does not include blood unless the blood is donated for the purpose of research or education. G.S. 130A-412.4(30).

BILL ANALYSIS: The act modifies the UAGA to allow donors to authorize the donation of tissue as an anatomical gift by the placement of a symbol on the donor's driver license or identification card.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act became effective October 1, 2019.

BACKGROUND: Tissue donation is currently authorized by various methods, such as registering online with Donate Life N.C. Tissues that may be donated include skin, bones, heart valves, tendons and veins. As of 2017, 54.5% of North Carolinians have registered as an organ donor at the DMV. The National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws promulgated the first version of the UAGA in 1968 and has offered two major revisions to the Act since then, first in 1987 and then 2006. Every state has adopted at least one of version of the UAGA.