



# OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

September 2017

Dear Educator,

I have enclosed information regarding the upcoming 2018 Organ/Tissue Donor Awareness Student Poster Contest, as well as the winning entry from the previous contest. The poster contest is held biennially and each winning student will receive prizes and gift cards.

By increasing awareness about organ and tissue donation, we can help shorten the waiting list and give others a second chance. You can help by encouraging your students to participate in our 22nd biennial statewide poster contest.

This year we have exciting news regarding the contest. Beginning January 1, 2018, 16- and 17-year-olds will be able to register for the state's First Person Consent Organ/Tissue Donor Registry when they receive their driver's license or identification card. This is due to legislation I initiated in order to save more lives in Illinois. While creating your posters, please consider featuring 16- and 17-year-olds registering to become organ donors in your life-saving drawings.

The contest is open to all Illinois students in grades K-12, and entries are divided into four categories: K-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Rules are included on the enclosed entry form.

Entries should be forwarded to the Secretary of State's office at the address provided on the entry form. Submissions must be postmarked by **Jan. 31, 2018**. Judges designated by my office will select a winner from each category and one grand prize winner. Winners will be notified by mail at the school address provided on the entry form and their family, teacher and principal will be invited to attend a ceremony in my Springfield office at the Capitol Building in March or April 2018. Prizes will be awarded to each category winner and the grand prize winning poster will be duplicated and displayed statewide at Secretary of State Driver Services facilities, libraries and hospitals.

We sincerely hope your school will participate in this exciting project. If you need additional posters, other educational materials or would like a speaker to visit your school, please contact Samantha Brill at 217-558-1322 or [SBrill@ilsos.net](mailto:SBrill@ilsos.net). Additional information, entry forms and rules can be obtained from our website at [www.LifeGoesOn.com](http://www.LifeGoesOn.com).

Thank you for your cooperation in promoting this wonderful cause.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse White".

Jesse White  
Illinois Secretary of State