

Health and Social Care Committee  
Human Transplantation (Wales) Bill  
HT(Ind)102 - John Griffin

Sarah Sargent,  
Deputy Clerk,  
Health and Social Committee,  
National Assembly for Wales,  
Cardiff,  
CF99 1NA

Dear Sahra,

**Human Transplant (Wales) Bill**

I would appreciate if you would kindly place before the Committee my reasons for not supporting the introduction of proposed legislation, as listed below:-

1 At any time in the future, it will be most difficult or even impossible for Ministers to refrain from promoting transplantation. Does the Welsh nation want such an authoritarian imposition on their representatives? I certainly do not wish to see us ruled by dodgy ideology. (Section 2 of the Bill)

2 The whole subject of "deemed consent" is so convoluted and emotionally charged. This will result in unnecessary trauma being suffered by the next of kin, with the likelihood of expensive and lengthy legal proceedings. I believe that such costs should not be placed upon these people or the NHS.

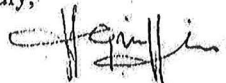
3 Our forebears in their struggles to obtain democracy, would never have supported a situation where the Authorities could claim and help themselves to the organs of the deceased. In those days, our ancestors would have been well aware of the sufferings caused by such highhanded arrogance. So let's not put the clock back.

4 The medical experts are seriously divided on the certainty of "Brain Death". Until the profound misgivings associated with the whole concept are 100% resolved, it behoves us to not only to protect the dying donor but also to avoiding adding to the harrowing grief experienced by families who were not consulted.

5 There appears to be no clause in the draft Bill of allowing medical staff to refuse to participate in such operations on grounds of conscience. Another example of blinkered intolerance.

I appeal to the committee to abandon the whole project, thereby allowing our nation to be proud of its history of organ donations and to strive to increase the number of donors based upon ethical informed consent.

Yours truly,



John Griffin