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Best Regards
Michael Turner

Greetings,

My name is Michael Flinner. I'm a 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ year old caucasian man writing to you from the empty confines of Death Row here at San Quentin.

The purpose of this missive is fairly straight-forward. Allow me to explain. About 6-7 years ago a friend of mine here, Steven Homick (now deceased) was losing his biological brother to kidney disease. Steven and I embarked upon an arduous uphill battle with the California Department of Corrections' administration to gain permission for Steven to donate a LIVING kidney to his brother. The CDC-R declined our life-saving requests.

Steven's brother eventually received a much-needed kidney from an auto accident decedent. While he was waiting for the transplant, Steven and I learned that the Federal Bureau of Prisons actually have a working protocol whereby FEDERAL prisoners are permitted to donate LIVING vital organs and tissues to immediate matchworthy biological family members in need. This was a game-changer, or so we thought.

We must've written 100 letters to legislators, congressional and senate folks alike. One person wrote back with a shine in her eyes for the idea we had. We found that no STATE prison system maintained a working LIVING inmate organ donor protocol (as otherwise found in the Federal Bureau of Prisons). This prompted us to work toward a common goal, getting California on the map as the first STATE PRISON SYSTEM which allowed prisoners to donate LIVING vital organs and tissues.

The idea was well-received thereafter by many people. It became SB1419. The Senate Bill (SB1419) passed Senate Health, Public Safety, and made its debut at Senate Appropriations. When we reached appropriations, we received quite a bit of pushback from CDC-R. They simply refused to fund the educational component of the would-be protocol (educating inmates about their rights, printing materials, and training medical staff, etc). We were looking at a negligible \$200k per year for a couple years. One heart transplant costs more than that. CDC-R wouldn't budge.

The bill was still passed, but we ended up NOT cutting the mustard on inmates being permitted to donate LIVING vital organs and tissues, but rather, SB1419 was effectuated for posthumous donations ONLY. This has NEVER made sense to me. If my only son (Jonathan) were to need a kidney or something, California's apathetic insanity demands that I must "die" in order to save his life. That's crazy on every level.

Additionally, part of the inner-workings of SB1419 permitted our inmate population the ability to put ourselves on national donor registries, and it created a form (Part 3) of our CDC-R Advanced Healthcare Directive whereby we can now designate with whom we wish to provide our remains upon death (i.e. research, science, etc.)

In America, where 2.3 million people are incarcerated, and less than 10% of them are actually "in" Federal Custody, the numbers speak volumes as to the lives we could be saving if we could just get some fresh eyes (a new legislative partner) on this thing, and model another Senate Bill after the existing FEDERAL protocol in-place, a working protocol. Why can't a new (rewritten) Bill be assembled and simply worded exactly like the Feds'? This should be simple.

I need your legal help to bring this to fruition. Imagine what this could do on so many levels across the nation. Your firm (and I) would be responsible for slating a life-saving Senate Bill. I don't want to go into this thing blindfolded like I did last time. Oddly enough, I have tried to contact Senator Cathleen Galgiani (author of SB1419) to simply get her to strike up a short note on her letterhead which states that I brought this concept to her and it laid the foundation for life-saving in the future. She can't see me with that letter for some reason.

I'd like to have you in the fold for a myriad of reasons. Obviously first and foremost, to protect my interests.

I should direct you to the 60Minutes segment I did on this very subject as well as the online audio project scope so you can see exactly what I'm trying to do. Further, I launched a twitter page several years back, but my father (who needed a lung that California wouldn't let me give him, has since died) was the administrator, so things have sorta stalled. A new webpro, merchandising, legislative partner, and a legal team would be huge for this thing to finally work.

Sometime this summer, I will be transferring to another prison, so I hope to get this ball rolling. Please contact me as soon as you can. People are dying when they have matchworthy organs and tissues right behind these prison walls across America. It's a no-brainer.

Stay Safe
Best Regards,

Michael Flinner
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60Minutes segment: bit.ly/2d0m2h5
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