

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9939

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, to conduct a study on existing efforts of hospitals with respect to electronic automated referrals for purposes of organ donation, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 4, 2024

Mr. WITTMAN (for himself, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. COSTA, and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, to conduct a study on existing efforts of hospitals with respect to electronic automated referrals for purposes of organ donation, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Organ Donation Refer-  
5 ral Improvement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STUDYING ELECTRONIC AUTOMATED REFERRAL**  
2 **FOR ORGAN DONATIONS.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than one year after the  
4 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and  
5 Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary  
6 for Planning and Evaluation (referred to in this Act as  
7 the “Secretary”), shall conduct and complete a study on  
8 existing efforts of hospitals with respect to electronic auto-  
9 mated referrals for purposes of organ donation.

10 (b) **STUDY COMPONENTS.**—The study conducted  
11 under subsection (a) shall—

12 (1) identify savings in staff time, variation in  
13 timeliness to determine eligibility for organ donation,  
14 as well as potential improvement over human inter-  
15 action for the identification of potential organ do-  
16 nors, if any, attained through the use of electronic  
17 automated referrals;

18 (2) identify benefits, if any, in identifying po-  
19 tential organ donors through the use of electronic  
20 medical records and standardized clinical criteria;

21 (3) review the impact of such electronic auto-  
22 mated referrals, without the need for manual report-  
23 ing, on donation volumes;

24 (4) assess published peer-reviewed clinical lit-  
25 erature on such electronic automated referrals;

1           (5) review best practices for using such elec-  
2           tronic automated referrals;

3           (6) review information technology practices to  
4           ensure the secure transmission of information for  
5           purposes of such referrals;

6           (7) develop recommendations to promote the  
7           use of such electronic automated referrals; and

8           (8) identify what actions are needed to establish  
9           the use of such electronic automated referrals na-  
10          tionwide.

11          (c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date  
12 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to  
13 the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Com-  
14 mittee on Ways and Means of the House of Representa-  
15 tives and the Committee on Finance and the Committee  
16 on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate  
17 a report on the results of the study conducted under sub-  
18 section (a).

19          (d) ELECTRONIC AUTOMATED REFERRAL DE-  
20 FINED.—In this section, the term “electronic automated  
21 referral” means an electronic system that identifies poten-  
22 tial deceased organ donors via clinical criteria in a pa-  
23 tient’s electronic health record and automatically refers

- 1 such patients to the hospital's collaborating organ pro-
- 2 curement organization.

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