Starting on January 1, 2006, a person wanting to donate their organs can now go on-line to the Illinois Secretary of State’s website https://www.LifeGoesOn.com/ or go to their local Secretary of State’s Office and sign up to donate their organs. Donations will not occur until all life saving measures on behalf of the donor have failed. The family of the donor will still have the support and assistance of procurement agencies.

This new registry has the advantage of being both legally binding and not requiring any witness signatures. In other words, a person’s wish to donate their organs can not be overridden by his or her family or agent after their death. If an individual has signed up as an organ donor under the old registry, they will have to sign up for the new First-Person registry to ensure that their family doesn’t have to give permission for their organs to be donated. Any
person on the registry will retain the right to revoke their consent to be an organ donor by contacting the Illinois Secretary of State.