

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 479

Designating April 2018 as “National Donate Life Month”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 23, 2018

Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. WARREN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating April 2018 as “National Donate Life Month”.

Whereas, in April 2018, more than 114,000 individuals in the United States were on the official national transplant waiting list (referred to in this preamble as the “national transplant waiting list”) managed by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network;

Whereas, in 2017, 34,770 transplant procedures were performed in the United States with organs from 10,286 deceased donors and 6,187 living donors, yet 6,081 candidates for transplantation died while waiting for an organ transplant;

Whereas, on average, 20 people die each day in the United States while waiting for an organ donation;

Whereas more than 138,000,000 people in the United States are registered to be organ and tissue donors, yet the de-

mand for donated organs outweighs the supply of organs made available each day;

Whereas, in 2017, a record was set for the number of organ transplants performed in a single year, yet every 10 minutes, 1 person is added to the national transplant waiting list;

Whereas an organ donation from a single deceased donor can benefit up to 8 individuals;

Whereas a living donor can donate a kidney or a portion of a lung or the liver to save the life of another individual; and

Whereas April is traditionally recognized as “National Donate Life Month”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates April 2018 as “National Donate
3 Life Month”;

4 (2) supports the goals and ideals of National
5 Donate Life Month;

6 (3) supports promoting awareness of organ do-
7 nation by increasing public awareness;

8 (4) encourages States, localities, and territories
9 of the United States to support the goals and ideals
10 of National Donate Life Month by issuing a procla-
11 mation to designate April 2018 as “National Donate
12 Life Month”;

13 (5) commends each individual who—

1 (A) is a registered organ donor who may
2 have a positive impact on the life of another in-
3 dividual; or

4 (B) indicates a wish to become an organ
5 donor;

6 (6) acknowledges the grief of families who face
7 the loss of loved ones and commends the families
8 who, in their grief, choose to donate the organs of
9 deceased family members;

10 (7) recognizes the generous contribution made
11 by each living individual who has donated an organ
12 to save the life of another individual;

13 (8) acknowledges the advances in medical tech-
14 nology that have enabled organ transplantation with
15 organs donated by living individuals to become a via-
16 ble treatment option for an increasing number of pa-
17 tients;

18 (9) commends the medical professionals and
19 organ transplantation experts who have worked to
20 improve the process of living organ donation and in-
21 crease the number of living donors; and

22 (10) salutes each individual who has helped to
23 give the gift of life by supporting, promoting, and
24 encouraging organ donation.

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