

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2023 AS ORGAN
DONATION MONTH**

WHEREAS, there are more than 104,200 Americans, and more than 6,300 in New England, currently waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant; and

WHEREAS, there are over 1,000,000 life-enhancing tissue transplants each year that are made possible by the generous donation of corneas, bone or skin or other tissue; and

WHEREAS, residents of this State can help to save lives and benefit up to 50 recipients by signing up to become organ and tissue donors and enrolling in the Maine Organ Donor Registry when applying for or renewing driver's licenses or other state identifications or by registering online at RegisterMe.org; and

WHEREAS, ninety-eight percent of all people in Maine who register to become a donor do so at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, which is an important part of reaching and surpassing the national goal of signing up 50% of the driving population to become donors; and

WHEREAS, Organ Donation Month pays tribute to organ and tissue donors and their families whose decision to donate enables others to receive lifesaving organs and tissues for transplant; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize April 2023 as Organ Donation Month, and we encourage residents to register as organ and tissue donors; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a suitable copy of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to New England Donor Services of Waltham, Massachusetts.