

1 A MEMORIAL

2 RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR NEW MEXICANS TO SAVE LIVES THROUGH
3 BLOOD, MARROW AND ORGAN TISSUE AND EYE DONATIONS AND
4 REQUESTING THAT FEBRUARY 14, 2011 BE DECLARED "GIFT OF LIFE
5 DONOR DAY" IN THE SENATE.

6
7 WHEREAS, individuals can be heroes during their
8 lifetimes through the gift of blood, marrow and living organ
9 donation and can leave a legacy of life after death through
10 the gift of organ, eye and tissue donation; and

11 WHEREAS, over six hundred fifty New Mexicans are
12 currently awaiting life-saving organ transplants on the
13 national waiting list of one hundred ten thousand patients,
14 and every day nineteen people on the list die due to the lack
15 of organ donors; and

16 WHEREAS, thousands of New Mexicans will need tissue
17 transplants this year, such as corneas to restore sight, bone
18 or tissue grafts to restore health and mobility and skin
19 grafts to heal burns; and

20 WHEREAS, three hundred twenty blood donations are needed
21 each day in New Mexico and one out of three New Mexicans will
22 need blood sometime in their lifetime, yet only five percent
23 of the population gives blood; and

24 WHEREAS, eight hundred patients were diagnosed with
25 leukemia or other diseases in New Mexico last year that could

1 benefit from a marrow transplant, and seventy percent will
2 rely on the national marrow donor registry to find a match;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, February 14, 2011 is recognized as "National
5 Donor Day";

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
7 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Valentine's day, a day of friendship
8 and love, be remembered as a day to express love by saving
9 someone's life through the gift of donation and requesting
10 that February 14, 2011 be declared "Gift of Life Donor Day"
11 in the senate; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the senate encourage all
13 New Mexicans to make a commitment to give the gift of life
14 and help others in need by making an appointment to donate
15 blood three times a year, registering to be a marrow donor on
16 the national registry at www.marrows.org and signing up to be
17 an organ and tissue donor on their New Mexico driver's
18 license or identification card, or on the new donate life
19 organ and tissue donor registry at www.NMdonor.org.