
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 317 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, BOSCOLA, DINNIMAN, BLAKE, FONTANA,
SABATINA, BROWNE, SCAVELLO, GREENLEAF, VOGEL, SCHWANK,
KILLION, AUMENT, RAFFERTY, COSTA, HUGHES AND VULAKOVICH,
APRIL 17, 2018

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 17, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2018 as "Pennsylvania Donate Life
2 Month."

3 WHEREAS, Organ and tissue transplantation has been recognized
4 as a corrective and lifesaving medical procedure; and

5 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania strongly supports organ and tissue
6 donation because of its lifesaving and life-enhancing
7 opportunities; and

8 WHEREAS, Each person who donates organs and tissues can
9 potentially take eight people off the organ transplant waiting
10 list, restore sight to two people and save or enhance more than
11 75 lives; and

12 WHEREAS, More than 7,500 men, women and children in this
13 Commonwealth are awaiting lifesaving organ transplants; and

14 WHEREAS, Only 2,198 transplants were performed in this
15 Commonwealth in 2017 due to a lack of organ donations; and

16 WHEREAS, Approximately 95% of people say they support organ
17 donation, but only 47.8% of Pennsylvanians have demonstrated it

1 by registering as donors; and

2 WHEREAS, On average, one person will die every 18 hours in
3 this Commonwealth waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant; and

4 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has 18 transplant centers and is
5 recognized as a world leader in organ and tissue
6 transplantation; and

7 WHEREAS, Commonwealth law enables residents to donate their
8 organs and tissues by selecting the option to become a donor
9 when applying for or renewing their driver's license or State
10 identification card and also allows relatives to consent to the
11 donation of organs and tissues of a deceased family member; and

12 WHEREAS, A vital component of the continuation and
13 advancement of organ transplantation is the recovery of donor
14 organs and tissues; and

15 WHEREAS, The lifesaving work of transplant team medical
16 professionals and researchers of improving surgical techniques
17 and antirejection drugs has resulted in significantly increased
18 success rates for organ transplantation; and

19 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is a national and international
20 leader in the field of donation and transplantation, but the
21 number of people in need of transplants far exceeds the number
22 of organs and the amount of tissue available; and

23 WHEREAS, The Department of Health, Department of Education,
24 Department of Transportation and the two organ procurement
25 organizations in this Commonwealth, the Center for Organ
26 Recovery and Education (CORE) and the Gift of Life Donor
27 Program, are committed to enhancing the lives of those in need
28 of organ and tissue transplantation by continuing to increase
29 public awareness of the importance of becoming a registered
30 donor; and

1 WHEREAS, In order for this Commonwealth to remain a leader in
2 organ donation and transplantation, it is necessary that the
3 pronouncements and public policies of State government encourage
4 and promote organ and tissue donation; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of April 2018
6 as "Pennsylvania Donate Life Month"; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Senate support organ and tissue donation
8 and encourage all residents to consider becoming an organ and
9 tissue donor by placing the organ donor designation on their
10 driver's license or State identification card or registering
11 online at www.donatelifepa.org and sharing this decision with
12 their families.