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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 337 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, BOSCOLA, WOZNIAK, RAFFERTY, SABATINA,  
FONTANA, MCGARRIGLE, DINNIMAN, WHITE, BREWSTER, AUMENT,  
BARTOLOTTA, COSTA AND YUDICHAK, APRIL 12, 2016

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 12, 2016

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2016 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, Each person who donates organs and tissues can  
6 potentially save or enhance more than 50 lives and take 8 people  
7 off of the organ transplant waiting list; and

8 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 126,000 people are  
9 waiting for lifesaving organ transplants in the United States;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, More than 8,600 men, women and children in this  
12 Commonwealth are awaiting lifesaving organ transplants; and

13 WHEREAS, On average, one person will die every day in this  
14 Commonwealth waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant; and

15 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has 18 transplant centers and is  
16 recognized as a world leader in organ and tissue  
17 transplantation; and

1       WHEREAS, Commonwealth law enables residents to donate their  
2 organs and tissues by selecting this option to become a donor  
3 when applying for or renewing their drivers' licenses or State  
4 identification cards and also allows relatives to consent to the  
5 donation of organs and tissues of a deceased family member; and

6       WHEREAS, A vital component of the continuation and  
7 advancement of organ transplantation is the recovery of donor  
8 organs and tissues; and

9       WHEREAS, The lifesaving work of transplant team medical  
10 professionals and researchers of improving surgical techniques  
11 and antirejection drugs has resulted in significantly increased  
12 success rates for organ transplantation; and

13       WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is a national and international  
14 leader in the field of donation and transplantation, but the  
15 number of people in need of transplants far exceeds the number  
16 of organs and the amount of tissue available; and

17       WHEREAS, Despite the progress made in this Commonwealth's  
18 organ and tissue donor awareness program through the efforts of  
19 the Department of Health and Department of Transportation and  
20 the Commonwealth's two organ procurement organizations, the  
21 Center for Organ Recovery and Education and Gift of Life Donor  
22 Program and their partnering hospitals and exceptional health  
23 care workers, the growing demand for donated organs and tissues  
24 for transplantations represents a public health issue that  
25 merits action; and

26       WHEREAS, In order for this Commonwealth to remain a leader in  
27 organ donation and transplantation, it is necessary that the  
28 pronouncements and public policies of State government both  
29 encourage and promote organ and tissue donation; therefore be it

30       RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of April 2016

1 as "Pennsylvania Donate Life Month"; and be it further  
2 RESOLVED, That the Senate support organ and tissue donation  
3 and encourage all residents to consider the benefits of becoming  
4 an organ and tissue donor by placing the organ donor designation  
5 on their driver's license or State identification card or  
6 registering online at [www.donatelife-pa.org](http://www.donatelife-pa.org) and to share this  
7 decision with their families.