
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 362 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, BOSCOLA, ERICKSON, KASUNIC, STACK,
FONTANA, WASHINGTON, FERLO, GREENLEAF, DINNIMAN,
EICHELBERGER, SCARNATI, MENSCH, HUGHES, VULAKOVICH, SMITH,
BROWNE AND WHITE, APRIL 28, 2014

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 28, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2014 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 eight
7 people off the organ transplant waiting list; and

8 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 121,000 people are
9 waiting for lifesaving organ transplants in the United States;
10 and

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

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

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

1 transplantation; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of April 2014
2 as "Pennsylvania Donate Life Month"; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Senate support organ and tissue donation
4 and encourage all citizens to consider the benefits of becoming
5 an organ and tissue donor by placing the organ donor designation
6 on their driver's license or state identification card or
7 registering online at www.donatelife-pa.org and to share this
8 decision with their families.