



State of Wisconsin
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2116/1
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2015 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 25

April 14, 2015 – Introduced by Senators OLSEN, DARLING, RISSER, HARRIS DODD, LASSA, MARKLEIN, RINGHAND and L. TAYLOR, cosponsored by Representatives BALLWEG, BERCEAU, BOWEN, BRANDTJEN, E. BROOKS, CONSIDINE, EDMING, GANNON, GOYKE, HEBL, HORLACHER, JACQUE, JORGENSEN, KNODL, KOLSTE, T. LARSON, MILROY, MURSAU, MURTHA, A. OTT, PETRYK, RIEMER, RIPP, SARGENT, SHANKLAND, SINICKI, SPREITZER, SUBECK, TAUCHEN, C. TAYLOR, THIESFELDT, TITTL and WEATHERSTON. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** declaring April 2015 Donate Life Month.

2 Whereas, each year since 2003 during the month of April we recognize the
3 critical need for organ, eye, and tissue donation and honor those individuals who
4 have donated life; and

5 Whereas, the list of people awaiting organ transplants in Wisconsin numbers
6 more than 2,300 names, nearly half of whom have waited more than two years, and
7 nationally more than 123,000 individuals are on the organ transplant waiting list at
8 any given time; and

9 Whereas, every ten minutes another man, woman, or child is added to the
10 national transplant waiting list; and

11 Whereas, there were 685 transplants performed in Wisconsin in 2013 from the
12 generosity of 333 donors and donor families; and

13 Whereas, despite the success of current efforts, 21 people die each day waiting
14 for a donor organ; and

1 Whereas, up to 30,000 people each year are diagnosed with leukemia or other
2 blood diseases and approximately 20,000 will not find a marrow donor match within
3 their family and must rely upon the generosity of strangers; and

4 Whereas, nearly 32,000 units of blood are used in the United States every day
5 and blood supply reserves are often low because only 5 percent of the population
6 donates blood regularly; and

7 Whereas, a single individual’s donation of heart, lungs, liver, kidneys,
8 pancreas, and small intestine can save up to eight lives, and donation of tissue can
9 help save or enhance the lives of as many as 50 recipients; and

10 Whereas, almost every individual regardless of age is a potential organ, tissue,
11 bone marrow, or blood donor; and

12 Whereas, transplantation has become an element of mainstream medicine that
13 prolongs and enhances life; now, therefore, be it

14 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the members of the
15 Wisconsin legislature proclaim April 2015 as Donate Life Month in the state of
16 Wisconsin, and commend this observance to all citizens; and, be it further

17 ***Resolved, That*** the members of the legislature call upon our citizens to learn
18 about the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow, and blood donation, to sign up
19 to be a donor at the Wisconsin donor registry at DonorRegistry.Wisconsin.gov or
20 through the Wisconsin Division of Motor Vehicles, and to discuss such decision with
21 their families and friends; and, be it further

22 ***Resolved, That*** the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint
23 resolution to Donate Life Wisconsin, Inc.

24

(END)