

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 13, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 29

Introduced by Assembly Member Frazier

(Principal coauthor: Senator Runner)

(Coauthor: Senator Berryhill)

February 23, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 29—Relative to organ donation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 29, as amended, Frazier. Donate Life California Day: driver's license.

This measure would designate April 20, 2015, as DMV/Donate Life California Day in the State of California and the month of April 2015, as DMV/Donate Life California Month in the State of California, and would encourage all Californians to sign up with the Donate Life California Organ and Tissue Donor Registry.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Organ, tissue, eye, and blood donation are
2 compassionate and life-giving acts looked upon and recognized
3 in the highest regard; and

4 WHEREAS, More than 123,000 individuals nationwide and
5 over 22,000 Californians are currently on the national organ
6 transplant wait list. While about one-third of these patients receive
7 a transplant each year, another one-third die while waiting due to
8 a shortage of donated organs; and

9 WHEREAS, A single individual's donation of heart, lungs,
10 liver, kidneys, pancreas, and small intestine can save up to eight

1 lives, the donation of tissue can save and enhance the lives of up
2 to 50 others, and a single blood donation can help three people in
3 need; and

4 WHEREAS, Millions of lives each year are saved and enhanced
5 by donors of organs, tissue, eyes, and blood; and

6 WHEREAS, The California Department of Motor Vehicles is
7 celebrating 100 years of service to the State of California and ten
8 years as the official partner of Donate Life California; and

9 WHEREAS, A California resident can register with the Donate
10 Life California Registry when applying for or renewing his or her
11 driver's license or identification card at the Department of Motor
12 Vehicles; and

13 WHEREAS, Nearly twelve million Californians have joined
14 together to save lives by signing up with the state-authorized
15 Donate Life California Organ and ~~tissue~~ *Tissue* Donor Registry to
16 ensure that their wishes to be an organ, eye, and tissue donor are
17 recognized and honored; and

18 WHEREAS, Minorities are more likely to need a life-saving
19 transplant due to higher incidences of hypertension, diabetes, and
20 hepatitis, conditions that can potentially lead to organ failure and
21 placement on the national organ transplant waiting list; and

22 WHEREAS, Nationwide, minorities make up 58 percent of
23 organ transplant candidates and 64 percent of those awaiting kidney
24 transplants. In California, Latinos make up 39 percent of those
25 waiting for life-saving transplants, Asians and Pacific Islanders
26 20 percent, and African Americans another 12 percent; and

27 WHEREAS, Minorities make up more than one-half of the
28 population of high school students in California, according to the
29 State Department of Education. These high school students will
30 have the opportunity to make a decision about saving lives and
31 joining the state-authorized Donate Life California Registry to
32 ensure that their wishes to be organ, eye, and tissue donors are
33 recognized and honored; and

34 WHEREAS, Donate Life California has developed a
35 comprehensive Educator Resource Guide that includes many of
36 the health education content standards for California public schools.
37 This Educator Resource Guide includes lesson plans and
38 educational DVDs about organ, eye, and tissue donation, and the
39 Donate Life California Registry created specifically for the youth
40 population; now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
2 *thereof concurring,* That in recognition of April as National Donate
3 Life Month, the Legislature proclaims April 20, 2015, as
4 DMV/Donate Life California Day in the State of California, and
5 April 2015 as DMV/Donate Life California Month in the State of
6 California. In doing so, the Legislature encourages all Californians
7 to check “YES” when applying for or renewing a driver’s license
8 or identification card, or by signing up at
9 www.donatelifecalifornia.org or www.donevidacalifornia.org; and
10 be it further
11 *Resolved,* that the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
12 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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