

House Resolution

No. 44

Introduced by Assembly Members Atkins and Irwin

March 29, 2016

House Resolution No. 44—Relative to organ donation.

1 WHEREAS, The Legislature has established an official state
2 organ and tissue donor registry that has become the largest in the
3 world, with 13 million people signed up to save and heal the lives
4 of others after death; and

5 WHEREAS, The 10-year official partnership between Donate
6 Life California and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has
7 resulted in 95 percent of the donors on the registry being added
8 by the DMV with a simple checkoff box; and

9 WHEREAS, The Legislature has approved the innovative Living
10 Donation California information and referral tool to encourage
11 living kidney donation; and

12 WHEREAS, Our Superintendent of Public Instruction has
13 recognized Donate Life California's high school education
14 program, which has educated students about organ, eye, and tissue
15 donation for the past six years and is anticipated to be added to
16 the science frameworks; and

17 WHEREAS, The Assembly acknowledges that California has
18 the greatest need for transplantation in the nation with 22,000
19 residents waiting for a second chance at life, representing one in
20 five on the national waiting list; and

21 WHEREAS, The Assembly acknowledges that in 2015, 918
22 Californians became organ donors and 3,417 life-saving transplants
23 were performed in our state. Tragically, 929 people died while
24 waiting due to the shortage of available organs; and

1 WHEREAS, The Assembly sadly acknowledges that in 2015,
2 California had the longest waiting time and most deaths while
3 waiting, and that only 40 percent of Californians sign up as donors;
4 now, therefore, be it

5 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That in
6 recognition of the month of April as National Donate Life Month,
7 the Assembly proclaims the month of April 2016 as Donate Life
8 California/DMV Month in the State of California; and be it further

9 *Resolved*, That in doing so, the Assembly encourages all
10 Californians to register with the Donate Life California Organ and
11 Tissue Donor Registry by checking “YES!” for organ and tissue
12 donation when applying for or renewing a driver’s license or
13 identification card, or by signing up at
14 www.donateLIFEcalifornia.org or www.doneVIDAcalifornia.org;
15 and be it further

16 *Resolved*, That the Assembly underscores its renewed efforts
17 to save more lives through donor registration and calls on all
18 members of the Assembly to consider how best to share news
19 about both the need for organ and tissue donation and actions that
20 can be taken to help their constituents; and be it further

21 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
22 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.