

**Introduced by Senators Berryhill, Runner, Anderson, Bates, Cannella, Fuller, Gaines, Hall, Hertzberg, Huff, Moorlach, Morrell, Nguyen, Nielsen, Stone, and Vidak**

March 31, 2016

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Senate Resolution No. 71—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 produced 95 percent of donors on the registry through the DMV  
8 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 Senate acknowledges that California has the  
18 greatest need for transplantation in the nation with 22,000 residents  
19 waiting for a second chance at life, representing one in five on the  
20 national waiting list; and

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

1 WHEREAS, The Senate 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 Senate of the State of California,* That in  
6 recognition of the month of April as National Donate Life Month,  
7 the Senate proclaims the month of April 2016 as DMV/Donate  
8 Life Partnership Month in the State of California; and be it further

9 *Resolved,* That in doing so, the Senate 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](http://www.donateLIFEcalifornia.org) or [www.doneVIDAcalifornia.org](http://www.doneVIDAcalifornia.org);  
15 and be it further

16 *Resolved,* That the Senate underscores its renewed efforts to  
17 save more lives through donor registration and calls on all members  
18 of the Senate to consider how to share information about the cause  
19 and about actions to help their constituents in need; and be it further

20 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
21 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.