

**Senate Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 88**

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**Introduced by Senator Polanco**

@@@@(Coauthors: Assembly Members Aguiar, Alquist, Aroner, Baca, Baldwin, Battin, Baugh, Bordonaro, Bowen, Brown, Bustamante, Cardoza, Cedillo, Cunneen, Davis, Ducheny, Escutia, Figueroa, Gallegos, Granlund, Havice, Honda, House, Kaloogian, Keeley, Knox, Kuehl, Kuykendall, Leach, Lempert, Machado, Mazzoni, McClintock, Migden, Miller, Morrissey, Murray, Napolitano, Olberg, Oller, Ortiz, Papan, Perata, Poochigian, Pringle, Runner, Scott, Shelley, Strom-Martin, Sweeney, Takasugi, Thomson, Torlakson, Villaraigosa, Vincent, Washington, Wayne, Wildman, and Wright)

April 14, 1998

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 88—Relative to Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 88, as amended, Polanco. Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of April 1998 as Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, More than 57,000 individuals are currently
- 2 on the national waiting list for an organ transplant, but
- 3 only about 20,000 will receive one this year due to a
- 4 critical shortage of donors; and

1 WHEREAS, Approximately 7,000 Californians need  
2 organ transplants and thousands more need tissue  
3 transplants; and  
4 WHEREAS, Every three hours one person dies while  
5 waiting for a transplant; and  
6 WHEREAS, An estimated 10,000 to 14,000 people who  
7 die each year meet the medical criteria for organ  
8 donation, but less than half of that number become actual  
9 donors; and  
10 WHEREAS, A leading reason for this low donation rate  
11 is that many families do not discuss the choice of donation  
12 prior to a family member's death or refuse to consent to  
13 donation at the time of death; and  
14 WHEREAS, The heart, heart valves, pancreas, liver,  
15 small intestines, skin, eyes, corneas, lungs, bone,  
16 bonemarrow, and kidneys are organs and tissues that may  
17 be donated; and  
18 WHEREAS, A single donor can help more than 50  
19 recipients; and  
20 WHEREAS, Donors may be of all ages and creeds, and  
21 all major religions support organ and tissue donation;  
22 now, therefore, be it  
23 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the*  
24 *Assembly thereof concurring,* That the Legislature  
25 proclaims the month of April 1998 as Organ and Tissue  
26 Donor Awareness Month, and encourages Californians to  
27 learn the facts about organ donation, make a decision  
28 about becoming an organ donor, and discuss this decision  
29 with family members.

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