



## 2021 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 25

April 8, 2021 - Introduced by Senators DARLING, BALLWEG, AGARD, BEWLEY, CARPENTER, COWLES, JACQUE, MARKLEIN, RINGHAND, ROYS and L. TAYLOR, cosponsored by Representatives NOVAK, BOWEN, DITTRICH, GUNDRUM, JAGLER, MAGNAFICI, MILROY, MURPHY, ROZAR, SHANKLAND, SINICKI, SPIROS, TAUCHEN, THIESFELDT, TITTL, VORPAGEL, VRUWINK, EDMING, NEYLON and SUBECK. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1     **Relating to:** proclaiming April 2021 as Donate Life Month in the state of Wisconsin.

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, 3 million Wisconsinites are registered as organ, tissue, and eye  
6     donors in Wisconsin; and

7             Whereas, the list of people awaiting organ transplants in Wisconsin numbers  
8     more than 2,000 names, about half of whom have waited more than two years, and  
9     nationally, 114,000 individuals are on the national organ transplant waiting list; and

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

12            Whereas, there were 819 organs transplanted in Wisconsin in 2019; and

13            Whereas, despite the success of current efforts, around 20 people die each day  
14     waiting for an organ transplant; and

1           Whereas, up to 18,000 people under age 74 are diagnosed with a  
2 life-threatening illness where a bone marrow transplant or umbilical cord blood  
3 transplant is their best treatment option, and approximately 12,000, more than 10  
4 percent, will not find a marrow donor match within their family and must rely upon  
5 the generosity of strangers; and

6           Whereas, nearly 41,000 units of blood are used in the United States every day,  
7 and blood supply reserves are often low because, while someone needs blood every  
8 two seconds, less than 10 percent of the population donates blood regularly; and

9           Whereas, a single individual's donation of heart, lungs, liver, kidneys,  
10 pancreas, and small intestine can save up to eight lives, and donation of tissue can  
11 help save or enhance the lives of as many as 75 recipients; and

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

14           Whereas, transplantation has become an element of mainstream medicine to  
15 prolong and enhance life; now, therefore, be it

16           ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the members of the  
17 Wisconsin Legislature proclaim April 2021 as Donate Life Month in the state of  
18 Wisconsin, and commend this observance to all citizens; and, be it further

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

