



2007 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 41

1 **Relating to:** declaring April 2007 Donate Life Month.

2 Whereas, each year since 2003 during the month of April we recognize the
3 critical need for organ and tissue donation and honor those individuals who have
4 donated life; and

5 Whereas, the list of people awaiting organ transplants in Wisconsin, numbers
6 over 1,500 names, 900 of those people have waited more than a year, and nationally
7 more than 95,000 individuals are on the organ transplant waiting list at any given
8 time; and

9 Whereas, every 13 minutes another man, woman, or child is added to the
10 transplant waiting list; and

11 Whereas, there were 767 transplants performed in Wisconsin in 2006 from the
12 generosity of 376 donors and donor families; and

13 Whereas, despite the success of current efforts 18 people die each day waiting
14 for a donor organ; and

1 Whereas, up to 30,000 people each year are diagnosed with leukemia or other
2 blood diseases and approximately 20,000 will not find a marrow donor match within
3 their family and must rely upon the generosity of strangers; and

4 Whereas, nearly 32,000 units of blood are used in the United States every day
5 and blood supply reserves are often low because only 5 percent of the population
6 donates blood regularly; and

7 Whereas, a single individual’s donation of heart, lungs, liver, kidneys,
8 pancreas, and small intestine can save up to eight lives, and donation of tissue can
9 help save or enhance the lives of as many as 50 recipients; and

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

12 Whereas, transplantation has become an element of mainstream medicine that
13 prolongs and enhances life; now, therefore, be it

14 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the
15 Wisconsin legislature proclaim April 2007 as Donate Life Month in the state of
16 Wisconsin, and commend this observance to all citizens; and, be it further

17 ***Resolved, That*** the members of the legislature call upon our citizens to learn
18 about the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow, and blood donation and to
19 discuss such donation with their families and friends, and make a declaration of their
20 intentions by registering to be an organ donor with the Wisconsin department of
21 motor vehicles; and, be it further

22 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint
23 resolution to the Wisconsin Coalition on Donation.

24

(END)