



2011 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 20

1 **Relating to:** declaring April 2011 Donate Life Month.

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, the list of people awaiting organ transplants in Wisconsin numbers
6 nearly 1,700 names, more than half of whom have waited more than a year, and
7 nationally more than 110,000 individuals are on the organ transplant waiting list at
8 any given time; and

9 Whereas, every 12 minutes another man, woman, or child is added to the
10 national transplant waiting list; and

11 Whereas, there were 677 transplants performed in Wisconsin in 2009 from the
12 generosity of 342 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 8 lives, and donation of tissue can help
9 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 senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the members of the
15 Wisconsin legislature proclaim April 2011 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, to sign up
19 to be a donor at the Wisconsin donor registry at www.yesIwillWisconsin.com or
20 through the Wisconsin Division of Motor Vehicles, and to discuss such decision with
21 their families and friends; and, be it further

22 ***Resolved, That*** the senate chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint
23 resolution to the Donate Life Wisconsin, Inc.