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State of Misconsin 2011 - 2012 LEGISLATURE



2011 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 20

April 4, 2011 – Introduced by Senators Olsen, Cowles, Darling, Harsdorf, Holperin, Kedzie, Lassa, Lazich, Leibham, Moulton, Risser, Schultz and Taylor, cosponsored by Representatives Ballweg, Barca, Berceau, Bernard Schaber, Bewley, Bies, Brooks, Hebl, Jorgensen, Kerkman, Marklein, Milroy, Mursau, A. Ott, Petryk, Pope-Roberts, Rivard, Roys, Shilling, Sinicki, Spanbauer, Strachota, Thiesfeldt, Williams, Ringhand and Loudenbeck. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

Relating to: declaring April 2011 Donate Life Month.

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

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

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

Whereas, there were 677 transplants performed in Wisconsin in 2009 from the generosity of 342 donors and donor families; and

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

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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.

(END)