



SPONSOR: Rep. Schwartzkopf & Rep. Longhurst on behalf of all  
Representatives & Sen. Townsend on behalf of all  
Senators

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 77

RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2018 AS "NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH" IN DELAWARE.

1           WHEREAS, April 2018 is “National Donate Life Month”, celebrated each year to encourage Americans to register  
2 as organ, eye and tissue donors and to celebrate those who have saved lives through the gift of donation; and

3           WHEREAS, during “National Donate Life Month”, we honor the compassion and generosity of registered donors,  
4 donor families and living donors, and recognize the commitment of researchers, innovators, champions, regional partners,  
5 and medical professionals who work tirelessly to save and heal lives through transplantation; and

6           WHEREAS, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing (“UNOS”), in 2017, more than 34,000  
7 transplants were performed in a single year for the first time in the United States, a milestone attained through the  
8 generosity of donors and their families; and

9           WHEREAS, approximately 115,000 men, women and children await organ transplants nationwide; and

10          WHEREAS, another person is added to the waiting list every ten minutes, and on average, twenty people die every  
11 day because the organs they need are not donated in time; and

12          WHEREAS, the organ transplant waiting list includes nearly 500 Delawareans, while many others benefit from  
13 tissue transplants that greatly enhance their quality of life; and

14          WHEREAS, by becoming an organ, eye and tissue donor, one individual can save and heal the lives of more than  
15 75 people; and

16          WHEREAS, 95 percent of the population have indicated that they support organ donation and there is strong  
17 support from healthcare professionals and all organized religions; and

18          WHEREAS, more than 138 million people, or approximately 55 percent of the United States’ adult population are  
19 registered donors; and

20          WHEREAS, in Delaware, 51.6 percent have placed the organ donor designation on their driver’s license or state  
21 identification card and the number continues to grow thanks to the support of the Division of Motor Vehicles, Department  
22 of Health and Social Services and other state agencies; and

23 WHEREAS, the most effective way to address this public health crisis is to educate citizens and to encourage them  
24 to register as organ, eye, and tissue donors at donors1.org or through Delaware's Division of Motor Vehicles.

25 BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the 149<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the  
26 Senate concurring therein, that the month of April 2018 is recognized as "National Donate Life Month", which  
27 acknowledges the generosity of donors and their families, supports organ, eye and tissue donation, and strongly encourages  
28 all Delawareans to become designated organ, eye and tissue donors.

#### SYNOPSIS

This resolution supports designating the month of April 2018 as "National Donate Life Month", which recognizes those and the families of those who have donated organ, eye and tissue, as well as supports and encourages the donation of organ, eye and tissue.