

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 72 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, STACK, MENSCH, RAFFERTY, DINNIMAN,
GREENLEAF, ALLOWAY, FONTANA, SOLOBAY, WAUGH, ERICKSON,
KASUNIC, EARLL, HUGHES, TARTAGLIONE, PIPPY, PILEGGI, COSTA,
BROWNE, WILLIAMS, BREWSTER, WOZNIAK AND FERLO, APRIL 6, 2011

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 6, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the day of April 6, 2011, as "Pennsylvania Organ and
2 Tissue Donor Awareness Day."

3 WHEREAS, Organ and tissue transplantation has been recognized
4 as a corrective and lifesaving medical procedure; and

5 WHEREAS, Each person who donates organs and tissue can
6 potentially save or enhance more than 50 lives and take eight
7 people off the organ transplant waiting list; and

8 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 110,000 people are
9 waiting for lifesaving organ transplants in the United States;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Approximately 8,000 individuals in Pennsylvania are
12 awaiting lifesaving organ donations; and

13 WHEREAS, On average, one person will die each day in
14 Pennsylvania waiting for lifesaving organ and tissue
15 transplants; and

16 WHEREAS, Each year approximately 6,600 individuals in the
17 United States give the gift of life through organ donation after

1 death; and

2 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has 17 transplant centers and is
3 recognized as a world leader in organ and tissue
4 transplantation; and

5 WHEREAS, State law enables citizens to donate their organs
6 and tissues through placing the donor designation on their
7 drivers' licenses or State identification cards and also allows
8 relatives to consent to the donation of organs and tissues of a
9 deceased family member; and

10 WHEREAS, A vital component of the continuation and
11 advancement of organ transplantation is the recovery of donor
12 organs and tissues; and

13 WHEREAS, The lifesaving work of transplant team medical
14 professionals and researchers to improve surgical techniques and
15 antirejection drugs has resulted in a significantly increased
16 success rate for organ transplantation; and

17 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is a national and international leader
18 in the field of donation and transplantation, but the number of
19 people in need of transplants far exceeds the number of organs
20 and the amount of tissue available; and

21 WHEREAS, Despite the progress made in Pennsylvania's Organ
22 and Tissue Donor Awareness Program, the growing demand for
23 donated organs and tissues for transplantation represents a
24 public health issue which merits action; and

25 WHEREAS, If Pennsylvania is to remain a leader in organ
26 donation and transplantation, it is necessary that the
27 pronouncements and public policies of State government both
28 encourage and promote organ donation; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the day of April 6, 2011,
30 as "Pennsylvania Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Day"; and be

1 it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage all Pennsylvanians to
3 designate themselves as an organ and tissue donor on their
4 drivers' licenses or State identification cards or by
5 registering online at www.donatelife-pa.org and share this
6 decision with their family and friends.