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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 76 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, BOSCOLA, ARGALL, FONTANA, DINNIMAN,  
PHILLIPS-HILL, BROWNE, COSTA, SANTARSIERO, HUGHES, BREWSTER,  
COLLETT, KILLION, SABATINA, BLAKE, TARTAGLIONE, BARTOLOTTA  
AND J. WARD, APRIL 9, 2019

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 9, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2019 as "Donate Life Month" in  
2 Pennsylvania.

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

5 WHEREAS, Each individual who donates organs, eyes and tissues  
6 can potentially save or enhance more than 75 lives and take 8  
7 people off the organ transplant waiting list; and

8 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 113,000 individuals  
9 are waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant in the United  
10 States; and

11 WHEREAS, On average, 20 people die each day in the United  
12 States waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant; and

13 WHEREAS, In 2018, approximately 10,000 individuals in the  
14 United States, including 615 individuals and families in this  
15 Commonwealth, elected to support the gift of life through organ  
16 donation after death; and

17 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has 19 transplant centers and is

1 recognized as the world leader in organ and tissue  
2 transplantation; and

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

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

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

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

19 WHEREAS, Despite the progress made in the Department of  
20 Health's Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness program through the  
21 efforts of the Commonwealth's organ procurement organizations,  
22 the Gift of Life Donor Program and the Center for Organ Recovery  
23 and Education (CORE) and their partnering hospitals and  
24 exceptional health care workers, the growing demand for donated  
25 organs and tissues for transplantation represents a public  
26 health issue that merits action; and

27 WHEREAS, If this Commonwealth is to remain a leader in organ  
28 donation and transplantation, it is necessary that the  
29 pronouncements and public policies of the Commonwealth both  
30 encourage and promote organ and tissue donation; therefore be it

1       RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of April 2019  
2 as "Donate Life Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That the Senate support organ donation and strongly  
4 encourage all citizens of this Commonwealth to designate  
5 themselves as an organ and tissue donor on their driver's  
6 licenses or State identification cards or by registering online  
7 at [www.donatelifepa.org](http://www.donatelifepa.org) and share the decision to do so with  
8 their families and friends.