
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 89 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, BOSCOLA, DINNIMAN, TOMLINSON, WOZNIAK,
FERLO, WASHINGTON, ERICKSON, STACK, BROWNE, GREENLEAF,
BREWSTER, WAUGH, ALLOWAY, PILEGGI, COSTA, FONTANA, VULAKOVICH
AND RAFFERTY, APRIL 15, 2013

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 15, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2013 as "Pennsylvania Donate Life
2 Month."

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 tissues 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 117,000 people are
9 waiting for lifesaving organ transplants in the United States;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Approximately 6,200 individuals in Pennsylvania are
12 awaiting lifesaving organ transplants; and

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

15 WHEREAS, In 2012 approximately 8,100 individuals in the
16 United States, including 460 individuals and families in this
17 Commonwealth, elected to support the gift of life through organ

1 donation after death; and

2 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has 18 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 through the efforts of the
23 Commonwealth's organ procurement organizations, Gift of Life
24 Donor Program and the Center for Organ Recovery and Education
25 (CORE) and their partnering hospitals and exceptional health
26 care workers, the growing demand for donated organs and tissues
27 for transplantation represents a public health issue which
28 merits action; and

29 WHEREAS, If this Commonwealth is to remain a leader in organ
30 donation and transplantation, it is necessary that the

1 pronouncements and public policies of State government both
2 encourage and promote organ and tissue donation; therefore be it
3 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of April 2013
4 as "Pennsylvania Donate Life Month"; and be it further
5 RESOLVED, That the Senate support organ donation and strongly
6 encourage all citizens of this Commonwealth to designate
7 themselves as an organ and tissue donor on their drivers'
8 licenses or State identification cards or by registering online
9 at www.donatelife-pa.org and share the decision to do so with
10 their families and friends.