
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 100 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS-HILL, KEARNEY, BROWNE, BROOKS, FONTANA,
SCAVELLO, J. WARD, MARTIN, COLLETT, BARTOLOTTA AND COSTA,
MAY 3, 2021

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MAY 3, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2021 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, eyes and tissues can
6 potentially save or enhance more than 75 lives and take 8 people
7 off the organ transplant waiting list; and

8 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 107,000 people are
9 awaiting lifesaving organ transplants in the United States; and

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

12 WHEREAS, Approximately 7,000 men, women and children are
13 awaiting lifesaving organ transplants in Pennsylvania; and

14 WHEREAS, In 2020, approximately 12,000 individuals in the
15 United States, including 687 individuals and families in this
16 Commonwealth, elected to support the gift of life through organ
17 donation after death; and

1 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has 18 transplant centers and is
2 recognized as the world leader in organ and tissue
3 transplantation; and

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

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

12 WHEREAS, The lifesaving work of transplant team medical
13 professionals and researchers to improve techniques and
14 antirejection drugs has resulted in a significant increase
15 success rate for organ transplantations; and

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

20 WHEREAS, Despite the progress made in Pennsylvania's Organ
21 and Tissue Donor Awareness Program through the efforts of the
22 Commonwealth's organ procurement organizations, Gift of Life
23 Donor Program and the Center for Organ Recovery and Education
24 and their partnering hospitals and exceptional health care
25 workers, the growing demand for donated organ and tissues for
26 transplantations represents a public health issue which merits
27 action; and

28 WHEREAS, If this Commonwealth is to remain a leader in organ
29 donation and transplantation, it is necessary that the
30 pronouncements and public policies of the State government both

1 encourage and promote organ and tissue donation; therefore be it
2 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of April 2021
3 as "Pennsylvania Donate Life Month"; and be it further
4 RESOLVED, The Senate support organ donation and strongly
5 encourage all residents of this Commonwealth to designate
6 themselves as an organ and tissue donor on their drivers'
7 licenses or State identification cards or by registering online
8 at www.donatelifepa.org and share the decision to do so with
9 their families and friends.