
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 67 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, BOSCOLA, BLAKE, DINNIMAN, SABATINA,
BROWNE, BREWSTER, GREENLEAF, WHITE AND COSTA, MARCH 28, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MARCH 28, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of April 2017 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 75 lives and take 8 people
7 off of the organ transplant waiting list; and

8 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 118,000 people are
9 waiting for lifesaving organ transplants in the United States;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, More than 7,700 men, women and children in this
12 Commonwealth are awaiting lifesaving organ transplants; and

13 WHEREAS, On average, one person will die every 18 hours in
14 this Commonwealth waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant; and

15 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has 18 transplant centers and is
16 recognized as a world leader in organ and tissue
17 transplantation; and

18 WHEREAS, Commonwealth law enables residents to donate their

1 organs and tissues by selecting the option to become a donor
2 when applying for or renewing their driver's license or State
3 identification card and also allows relatives to consent to the
4 donation of organs and tissues of a deceased family member; and

5 WHEREAS, A vital component of the continuation and
6 advancement of organ transplantation is the recovery of donor
7 organs and tissues; and

8 WHEREAS, The lifesaving work of transplant team medical
9 professionals and researchers of improving surgical techniques
10 and antirejection drugs has resulted in significantly increased
11 success rates for organ transplantation; and

12 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is a national and international
13 leader in the field of donation and transplantation, however,
14 the number of people in need of transplants far exceeds the
15 number of organs and the amount of tissue available; and

16 WHEREAS, Despite the progress made in this Commonwealth's
17 organ and tissue donor awareness program through the efforts of
18 the Department of Health and the Department of Transportation
19 and the Commonwealth's two organ procurement organizations, the
20 Center for Organ Recovery and Education and the Gift of Life
21 Donor Program and their partnering hospitals and exceptional
22 health care workers, the growing demand for donated organs and
23 tissues for transplantations represents a public health issue
24 that merits action; and

25 WHEREAS, In order for this Commonwealth to remain a leader in
26 organ donation and transplantation, it is necessary that the
27 pronouncements and public policies of State government encourage
28 and promote organ and tissue donation; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of April 2017
30 as "Pennsylvania Donate Life Month"; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the Senate support organ and tissue donation
2 and encourage all residents to consider the benefits of becoming
3 an organ and tissue donor by placing the organ donor designation
4 on their driver's license or State identification card or
5 registering online at www.donatelifepa.org and sharing this
6 decision with their families.