

By Representative Byrd

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House Resolution

A resolution recognizing the week of April 18-24, 1999, as National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week.

WHEREAS, the success of National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week depends largely on the commitment made by the leadership of this state to ensure that every Florida citizen becomes aware of and has an opportunity to alleviate the critical need for organ and tissue donations, and

WHEREAS, through statutory mandates, the State of Florida Organ and Tissue Donor Education Program, the Organ and Tissue Procurement and Transplantation Advisory Board, the Transplant Advisory Council, and the Bone Marrow Transplant Advisory Panel were created to help increase donations of these precious gifts of life, and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the Florida Coalition on Donation, the Minority Organ Tissue Transplant Education Program, the Transplant Recipients International Organization, the Marrow Donor Program, and the National Kidney Foundation, community-based efforts are continuously being made to educate and encourage contributions of these "gifts that keep on giving," and

WHEREAS, much of the success behind Florida's leading the nation in transplantation is through its partnerships with hospitals and organ, tissue, and eye procurement organizations, and

WHEREAS, through the support and cooperation of a concerned populace, the list of more than 60,000 individuals nationally who are awaiting a life-saving or life-enhancing transplant can be sharply reduced or eliminated entirely, and

1           WHEREAS, the generosity of Floridians alone is  
2 sufficient to reduce the waiting list of over 1,200  
3 individuals in this state who are in need of a transplant,  
4 NOW, THEREFORE,  
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6 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
7 Florida:

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9           That the House of Representatives pauses in its  
10 deliberations to recognize the week of April 18-24, 1999, as  
11 National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week and to  
12 encourage all citizens to register as organ and tissue donors.  
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