

HR 9139

2004

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29

House Resolution

A resolution designating April 2004 as "Organ Transplant Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, advances in medical research and improvements in transplant technology are offering the hope of a longer, healthier life to thousands of Americans today who suffer from diseases of vital organs of the body, and

WHEREAS, each year, the number of transplants performed increases, as it is now possible to transplant a variety of 28 kinds of organs and tissue, including heart, lung, liver, kidney, pancreas, intestine, bone marrow, tendon, and skin; but, tragically, the number of waiting candidates far exceeds the number of registered donors, and

WHEREAS, in 2003, 1,557 transplants were performed in Florida and as of April 1 there had already occurred 169 in 2004, while the 11 transplant centers in the state reported a list of approximately 3,017 individuals who were awaiting the precious, lifesaving gift of an organ or tissue, and

WHEREAS, disease is no respecter of age, gender, ethnicity, or race; conversely, almost anyone, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, race, or even previous illness, may be considered a potential donor of one or more of the most beneficial gifts one person may bestow on another, and

WHEREAS, it should also be noted that all transplant recipients require medication for the rest of their lives, which imposes a potentially life-threatening hardship on the medically needy; that they and their caregivers must reside in close proximity to a transplant center, which often necessitates their

HR 9139

2004

30 | living away from home; and that they are limited as to the types
 31 | of occupation for which they are suited, which may pose a need
 32 | for job training, NOW, THEREFORE,

33 |
 34 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
 35 | Florida:

36 |
 37 | That the House of Representatives designates April 2004 as
 38 | "Organ Transplant Awareness Month" in Florida as a time in which
 39 | to promote heightened awareness of the dire need for organ and
 40 | tissue donors, to familiarize the public with the facts
 41 | regarding organ donation, and to encourage residents throughout
 42 | the state to enlist as donors in this most important lifesaving
 43 | effort.

44 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Floridians, in addition to
 45 | becoming donors, are urged to work towards alleviating the
 46 | further hardships faced by transplant recipients.