

HR 9087

2005

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution designating April 2005 as "Organ Transplant  
3 Awareness Month" in Florida.

4  
5 WHEREAS, advances in medical research and improvements in  
6 transplant technology are offering the hope of a longer,  
7 healthier life to thousands of Americans today who suffer from  
8 diseases of vital organs of the body, and

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

15 WHEREAS, in 2004, 1,606 transplants were performed in  
16 Florida and by February 25, 2005, the 11 transplant centers in  
17 the state reported a list of approximately 3,139 individuals who  
18 were awaiting the precious, lifesaving gift of an organ or  
19 tissue, and

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

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

HR 9087

2005

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 2005 as  
 38 | "Organ Transplant Awareness Month" in Florida as a time to  
 39 | 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.