

By Senator Mayfield

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing May 13, 2017, as "Living Kidney Donors Day" in Florida and commending the heroic Floridians who have selflessly saved lives by donating a kidney as a living kidney donor.

WHEREAS, 4,458 dialysis patients in Florida and 97,913 kidney patients nationwide are waiting for a kidney transplant, and

WHEREAS, 400 Floridians and 4,732 persons nationwide die each year while waiting for a kidney transplant, and

WHEREAS, 200 Floridians are removed from the waiting list each year due to advanced illness caused by the life-threatening wait for a deceased donor's kidney, and

WHEREAS, this year, approximately 400 Floridians will receive a transplant, but more than 800 new names are expected to be added to the waiting list, and

WHEREAS, our nation's organ shortage dictates the ill-fated destiny of these kidney patients, and their only hope of survival lies in reaching the top of the list before it is too late, and

WHEREAS, living kidney donation (LKD) can end this life-threatening wait, and

WHEREAS, most healthy people do not realize that they can impact someone's life by donating one of their two kidneys to a person in need, and

WHEREAS, although a living donor needs to be healthy enough to qualify for LKD, he or she does not have to be blood-related to, or even blood-type compatible with, the recipient, and

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30 WHEREAS, the majority of those who donate go on to live
31 full, healthy, and vibrant lives, and

32 WHEREAS, to date, living kidney donors have successfully
33 improved outcomes for more than 139,000 kidney transplant
34 recipients, and

35 WHEREAS, the National Kidney Foundation of Florida is
36 committed to increasing awareness by recognizing living kidney
37 donors who give kidney patients hope for a better tomorrow, and

38 WHEREAS, while LKD is not for everyone and there are risks,
39 those who participate lead the way in this remarkable life-
40 saving opportunity, and

41 WHEREAS, LKD is currently the best and most cost-effective
42 treatment for end-stage renal disease, NOW, THEREFORE,

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44 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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46 That May 13, 2017, is recognized as "Living Kidney Donors
47 Day" in Florida and that the Senate commends the heroic
48 Floridians who have selflessly donated a kidney and shared and
49 saved lives as living kidney donors.