

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 59

## 99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MAY.

4951H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

1           **WHEREAS**, with more than one hundred eighteen thousand people waiting for an organ  
2 donation and with more than seven thousand people dying each year due to the lack of organs,  
3 public awareness of the great need for organ donation is the key to increasing the number of  
4 organ donors and thereby saving lives and improving the quality of life for recipients of organ  
5 donation; and  
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7           **WHEREAS**, approximately thirty thousand people a year have begun new lives thanks  
8 to an organ transplant. Organs and tissue from a single nonliving donor can be used to benefit  
9 more than fifty people. Living donors can donate a kidney and parts of their liver, lung,  
10 pancreas, or intestine, and can be evaluated to help a friend, family member, or even donate  
11 anonymously to patients of the wait list; and  
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13           **WHEREAS**, promoting the need for organ and tissue donors and encouraging people to  
14 become an organ donor and tissue donor are vitally important to increase the number of lives  
15 saved and changed for the better through organ donation; and  
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17           **WHEREAS**, people of African American/Black, Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic/Latino,  
18 American Indian/Alaskan Native, and multiracial descent currently make up nearly 58% of  
19 individuals on the national organ transplant waiting list. These communities are in great need  
20 of more organ and tissue donors; and  
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22           **WHEREAS**, an intensive awareness campaign focused on obstacles related to minorities  
23 and organ donation, which promotes healthy living and disease prevention to decrease the need  
24 for organ transplantation and which reaches out to all ethnic groups is greatly needed:  
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26           **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
27 Representatives of the Ninety-ninth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate  
28 concurring therein, hereby designate the month of August as "Minority Organ Donor Awareness  
29 Month" in Missouri; and

30           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the General Assembly encourages and  
31 recommends that people of the state of Missouri observe Minority Organ Donor Awareness  
32 Month through activities which will specifically address the need to increase awareness of organ  
33 donation by all ethnic groups and the need for organ donors. Such activities may include prayer  
34 breakfasts, health walks, and donor drives.

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