

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 25

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE GRAY.

2735H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

Relating to minority organ donor awareness week.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

2 **WHEREAS**, with more than 118,000 people waiting for an organ donation and with
3 more than 7,000 people dying each year due to the lack of organs, public awareness of the
4 great need for organ donation is the key to increasing the number of organ donors and thereby
5 saving lives and improving the quality of life for recipients of organ donation; and

6 **WHEREAS**, approximately 30,000 people a year have begun new lives thanks to an
7 organ transplant. Organs and tissue from a single nonliving donor can be used to benefit
8 more than 50 people. Living donors can donate a kidney and parts of their liver, lung,
9 pancreas, or intestine, and can be evaluated to help a friend, family member, or even donate
10 anonymously to patients on the wait list; and

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12 **WHEREAS**, promoting the need for organ and tissue donors and encouraging people
13 to become organ donors and tissue donors is vitally important to increase the number of lives
14 saved and changed for the better through organ donation; and

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16 **WHEREAS**, while every person must be advised of their option to donate an organ,
17 special emphasis needs to be directed to minority organ donation, a potential donation
18 population that to date has not become donors in large numbers; and

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20 **WHEREAS**, an intensive awareness campaign focused on obstacles related to
21 minorities and organ donation and which promotes healthy living and disease prevention to

22 decrease the need for organ transplantation and reaches out to all ethnic groups is greatly
23 needed:

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25 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
26 Representatives of the One Hundred Second General Assembly, First Regular Session, the
27 Senate concurring therein, hereby designate the first week of August as "Minority Organ
28 Donor Awareness Week" in Missouri; and

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

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36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be sent to the Governor for his
37 approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.

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