

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. RES. 152

Expressing support for the designation of April 2017 as “National Donate Life Month”.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 3, 2017

Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of April 2017 as “National Donate Life Month”.

Whereas, in April 2017, over 118,116 individuals were on the official waiting list for organ donation managed by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (referred to in this preamble as the “national transplant waiting list”);

Whereas, in 2016, 33,606 transplant procedures were performed with organs from 27,628 deceased donors and 5,978 living donors, yet 6,303 candidates for transplantation died while waiting for an organ transplant;

Whereas, on average, 22 people die each day while waiting for an organ donation;

Whereas over 130,000,000 people in the United States are registered to be organ and tissue donors, yet the demand for donated organs outweighs the supply of organs made available each day;

Whereas, in 2016, a record was set for the number of organ transplants performed in a single year, yet every 10 minutes, 1 person is added to the national transplant waiting list;

Whereas an organ donation from a single deceased donor can benefit up to 8 individuals;

Whereas a living donor can donate a kidney or a portion of a lung or the liver to save the life of another individual; and

Whereas April is traditionally recognized as “National Donate Life Month”: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2           (1) supports the goals and ideals of National  
3       Donate Life Month;

4           (2) supports promoting awareness of organ do-  
5       nation by increasing public awareness;

6           (3) encourages States, localities, and territories  
7       of the United States to support the goals and ideals  
8       of National Donate Life Month by issuing a procla-  
9       mation to designate April 2017 as “National Donate  
10      Life Month”;

11          (4) commends each individual who—

1           (A) is a registered organ donor who may  
2           have a positive impact on the life of another in-  
3           dividual; or

4           (B) indicates a wish to become an organ  
5           donor;

6           (5) acknowledges the grief of families who face  
7           the loss of loved ones and commends the families  
8           who, in their grief, choose to donate the organs of  
9           deceased family members;

10          (6) recognizes the generous contribution made  
11          by each living individual who has donated an organ  
12          to save the life of another individual;

13          (7) acknowledges the advances in medical tech-  
14          nology that have enabled organ transplantation with  
15          organs donated by living individuals to become a via-  
16          ble treatment option for an increasing number of pa-  
17          tients;

18          (8) commends the medical professionals and  
19          organ transplantation experts who have worked to  
20          improve the process of living organ donation and in-  
21          crease the number of living donors; and

22          (9) salutes each individual who has helped to  
23          give the gift of life by supporting, promoting, and  
24          encouraging organ donation.

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