

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6011

A RESOLUTION recognizing and celebrating National Donate Life Blue and Green Day on April 17, 2015, and National Donate Life Month in Kansas during April.

WHEREAS, One of the most meaningful gifts that one human being can bestow upon another is the precious gift of life; one that can be given by simply arranging in advance to donate our organs or those of our loved ones upon death; and

WHEREAS, Organ, tissue, eye, bone marrow, stem cell, and cord blood transplantation is one of the greatest medical achievements of our time, but the need for these gifts still far outweighs the number donated each year; and

WHEREAS, In excess of 124,000 American men, women and children are on the National Transplant Waiting List, with more than 2,600 waiting in Kansas and Missouri; and

WHEREAS, One organ donor can save up to eight lives, and one tissue donor can improve the lives of up to 50 other people, yet approximately 21 Americans die each day while waiting for a transplant; and

WHEREAS, Every four minutes, one person is diagnosed with a blood cancer, every 10 minutes someone dies from a blood cancer, and patients are searching for a cure; and

WHEREAS, 70% of all patients who need a transplant do not have a matched donor in their family, and a patient's likelihood of finding a matching donor on the Be The Match Registry is estimated to range from 76% to 97%. The donor and cord blood registries can only continue to grow if people sign up to become a member of the registry; and

WHEREAS, The heroic and rewarding decision to become a donor and bring hope to those waiting can easily be made by going to YesTheyWantMe.com and by saying, "Yes, I want to be a donor," when signing up or renewing your driver's license; and

WHEREAS, Every day in April, people across the United States celebrate the tremendous generosity of those who gave the precious gift of life and sight through organ, tissue, eye, bone marrow, stem cell, and cord blood donation during National Donate Life Month by encouraging more Americans to register as donors; and

WHEREAS, During National Donate Life Blue and Green Day, the public is encouraged to wear blue and green, hold events, and partner with local media, businesses and community organizations in an effort to bring attention to donation and transplantation: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That we recognize and celebrate National Donate Life Blue and Green Day on April 17, 2015, and National Donate Life Month in Kansas during April and urge all Kansans to join us in supporting this humanitarian action of giving the gift of life and sight to our fellow neighbors, residents and citizens.

House Resolution No. 6011 was sponsored by Representatives Susie Swanson and Erin Davis.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.