

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 102

2 BY EDDIE

3 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing National Organ and
4 Tissue Donation Awareness Week, designating the month
5 of May as Organ Donation Awareness Month in the state
6 of Iowa, and encouraging citizens of the state to
7 complete organ donor cards.

8 WHEREAS, approximately 200 people in this state are
9 currently awaiting organ transplants, including heart,
10 lung, liver, kidney, and kidney-pancreas transplants,
11 and approximately 60,000 individuals are awaiting
12 organ transplants nationwide; and

13 WHEREAS, the number of organ donors in this state
14 was only 52 in 1997, an increase of one donor over the
15 previous year; and

16 WHEREAS, the need for organ transplants in this
17 state, and nationally, continues to increase at a
18 faster rate than the rate of organ donations; and

19 WHEREAS, proposed changes in United Network for
20 Organ Sharing distribution procedures establishing one
21 prioritized national list for liver transplants are
22 generating concern that the availability of organs at
23 transplant centers within the state may be curtailed;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, organ donation cards have been developed
26 which are designed to inform medical staff and family
27 members of an individual's desire to become an organ
28 donor should circumstances so warrant; and

29 WHEREAS, a completed organ donation card increases
30 the likelihood that an individual's wish to donate

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1 will be communicated and carried out in an expeditious
2 manner, assisting and relieving family members
3 regarding their consent to donate; and

4 WHEREAS, the week of Sunday, April 19, 1998,
5 through Saturday, April 25, 1998, has been designated
6 National Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Week; NOW
7 THEREFORE,

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
9 SENATE CONCURRING, that the designation of the week of
10 April 19, 1998, through April 25, 1998, as National
11 Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Week is officially
12 recognized, and that the month of May shall annually
13 be designated Organ Donation Awareness Month in the
14 state of Iowa; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the citizens of the
16 state of Iowa are encouraged to consider the option of
17 organ donation and complete organ donor cards
18 available at driver's license renewal stations,
19 hospitals and doctors' offices, and statewide Organ
20 Procurement Organization locations; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Speaker of the
22 House of Representatives shall send copies of this
23 Resolution to each member of the Iowa congressional
24 delegation, and to the Secretary of the federal
25 Department of Health and Human Services.

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