

*Rules*  
S. 4/22/98 *Do Pass*  
S. 4/22/98 *adopted*  
**FILED APR 22 1998** =  
H. 4/22/98 *adopted*

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 121

2 BY FREEMAN

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 SENATE, THE HOUSE OF  
9 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the designation of  
10 the week of April 19, 1998, through April 25, 1998, as  
11 National Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Week is  
12 officially recognized, and that the month of May shall  
13 annually be designated Organ Donation Awareness Month  
14 in the 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 doctor's offices, and statewide Organ  
20 Procurement Organization locations; and

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

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