IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 43

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF ORGAN DONATION TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND TO SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, there are 114,896 people who need a lifesaving organ transplant, and of those people, 74,716 people are active waiting list candidates; and

WHEREAS, there are currently more than 850 people on the Idaho organ donation waiting list; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 2,000 children under the age of 18 on the national organ donation waiting list; and

WHEREAS, every 10 minutes, someone is added to the national transplant wait list; and

WHEREAS, on average, 20 people die each day waiting for an organ transplant; and

WHEREAS, one organ donor can save up to eight lives; and

WHEREAS, a person can sign up to be an organ donor when receiving or renewing a driver's license; and

WHEREAS, most donated organs must come from an individual who is within 15 years of age to the recipient; and

WHEREAS, adolescents are able to donate to a wide range of adults and children due to their age; and

WHEREAS, the number of adolescent donors, ages 11 to 17, has significantly decreased from 706 donors in 1995 to 410 donors in 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-fourth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature recognizes that organ donation is a selfless and generous gift that can save lives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature recognizes that the ability to transplant organs is one of the greatest success stories in modern medicine.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature supports increased awareness and education for adolescent and adult organ transplants.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature encourages people of all ages to consider becoming an organ donor.