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**HR-44** (2015-2016)

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AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 11, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2015–2016 REGULAR SESSION

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

**NO. 44**

Introduced by Assembly Members Atkins and Irwin

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Baker, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonilla, Bonta, Brown, Burke, Calderon, Campos, Chang, Chau, Chávez, Chiu, Chu, Cooley, Cooper, Dababneh, Dahle, Daly, Dodd, Eggman, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Gordon, Gray, Grove, Hadley, Harper, Roger Hernández, Holden, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Kim, Lackey, Levine, Linder, Lopez, Low, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, McCarty, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Nazarian, Obernolte, O'Donnell, Olsen, Patterson, Quirk, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Salas, Steinorth, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Ting, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Wilk, Williams, and Wood)*

March 29, 2016

Relative to organ donation.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

HR 44, as amended, Atkins.

WHEREAS, The Legislature has established an official state organ and tissue donor registry that has become the largest in the world, with 13 million people signed up to save and heal the lives of others after death; and

WHEREAS, The 10-year official partnership between Donate Life California and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has resulted in 95 percent of the donors on the registry being added by the DMV with a simple checkoff box; and

WHEREAS, The Legislature has approved the innovative Living Donation California information and referral tool to encourage living kidney donation; and

WHEREAS, Our Superintendent of Public Instruction has recognized Donate Life California's high school education program, which has educated students about organ, eye, and tissue donation for the past six years and is anticipated to be added to the science frameworks; and

WHEREAS, The Assembly acknowledges that California has the greatest need for transplantation in the nation with 22,000 residents waiting for a second chance at life, representing one in five on the national waiting list; and

WHEREAS, The Assembly acknowledges that in 2015, 918 Californians became organ donors and 3,417 life-saving transplants were performed in our state. Tragically, 929 people died while waiting due to the shortage of available organs; and

WHEREAS, The Assembly sadly acknowledges that in 2015, California had the longest waiting time and most deaths while waiting, and that only 40 percent of Californians sign up as donors; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That in recognition of the month of April as National Donate Life Month, the Assembly proclaims the month of April 2016 as Donate Life California/DMV Month in the State of California; and be it further

Resolved, That in doing so, the Assembly encourages all Californians to register with the Donate Life California Organ and Tissue Donor Registry by checking "YES!" for organ and tissue donation when applying for or renewing a driver's license or identification card, or by signing up at [www.donateLIFECalifornia.org](http://www.donateLIFECalifornia.org) or [www.doneVIDACalifornia.org](http://www.doneVIDACalifornia.org); and be it further

Resolved, That the Assembly underscores its renewed efforts to save more lives through donor registration and calls on all members of the Assembly to consider how best to share news about both the need for organ and tissue donation and actions that can be taken to help their constituents; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.