

By: Wu

H.R. No. 317

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Bone Marrow, Blood, and Organ Donation Registry Day
2 was observed in Texas on February 26, 2023; and

3 WHEREAS, Each year, Bone Marrow, Blood, and Organ Donation
4 Registry Day encourages citizens across the Lone Star State to
5 register to become donors and to participate in local blood drives;
6 while donations play an essential role in a broad range of critical
7 medical treatments, only two percent of the population is on the
8 national registry for bone marrow, and only about half of Americans
9 are signed up to be organ donors; moreover, while an estimated 37
10 percent of U.S. residents are eligible to donate blood, less than 10
11 percent of that group actually does so each year; and

12 WHEREAS, A single organ donor can save up to eight lives and
13 enhance the lives of up to 75 others; there are currently over
14 105,000 individuals on the national transplant waiting list, with a
15 new name added every 10 minutes; although there are more than 40,000
16 transplants performed annually, 17 people die each day while
17 waiting for organs to become available; and

18 WHEREAS, Bone Marrow, Blood, and Organ Donation Registry Day
19 was initiated to honor Dr. Anh Nguyen Reiss, a Houston physician
20 who was diagnosed with myelodysplastic syndrome and who dedicated
21 the last years of her life to raising awareness of the need for bone
22 marrow donors; though she passed away on February 26, 2016, at the
23 age of 48, she and her family and friends helped more than double
24 the number of Vietnamese donors on the registry; on May 29, 2019,

1 Governor Greg Abbott signed a bill of the 86th Texas Legislature to
2 designate February 26 as Bone Marrow, Blood, and Organ Donation
3 Registry Day; and

4 WHEREAS, Bone marrow, blood, and organ donation can give hope
5 to countless Americans for longer, healthier lives, and this worthy
6 cause is one that deserves the earnest support of every citizen;
7 now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas
9 Legislature hereby commemorate Bone Marrow, Blood, and Organ
10 Donation Registry Day 2023 and encourage all Texans to give blood
11 and to sign up to become organ and bone marrow donors.