

By: Laubenberg

H.R. No. 1488

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, April is National Donate Life Month, and on April  
2 17, 2007, the Texas Transplantation Society has invited transplant  
3 physicians, surgeons, nurses, organ recipients, donors, and family  
4 members of donors to celebrate Donate Life Texas Day at the Capitol;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, During the month of April, people across the state  
7 and nation are making special efforts to recognize those who have  
8 saved lives by becoming organ, tissue, marrow, and blood donors and  
9 to encourage other Americans to follow their fine example; although  
10 the decision to donate is often difficult, this compassionate  
11 gesture has the power to grant second chances to those in need; and

12           WHEREAS, The TTS and the Department of State Health Services  
13 strive to educate all Texans about the critical shortage of organ  
14 donors and the lifesaving benefits of transplantation; more than  
15 95,000 men, women, and children nationwide, including more than  
16 7,000 Texans, are anxiously awaiting organs for lifesaving  
17 transplants, and this number grows daily; meanwhile, thousands of  
18 patients will die before a donor becomes available; and

19           WHEREAS, The 79th Legislature created the D.E.A.R. Program of  
20 Texas, which in conjunction with the DSHS, the Texas Department of  
21 Transportation, the Department of Public Safety, and the private  
22 sector, allows Texans to register their intent to donate organs,  
23 tissue, or eyes in the event of death; the Honorable Glenda Dawson,  
24 the recipient of a kidney donation, understood firsthand the urgent

1 need for organ donors; drawing on her own personal experience, she  
2 worked to inform others of the crucial benefits of transplantation,  
3 and her story remains an inspiration to countless people; members  
4 of the legislature are working to honor the late representative's  
5 legacy by renaming the D.E.A.R. program the Glenda Dawson Donate  
6 Life-Texas registry; and

7 WHEREAS, Myriad state employees are involved in the effort to  
8 promote organ donation, including the men and women on the front  
9 lines of DPS driver's license offices and TxDOT tax offices who  
10 daily communicate to the public the benefits of transplantation;  
11 moreover, medical professionals and members of the Texas  
12 Transplantation Society play an important role in facilitating  
13 transplants; and

14 WHEREAS, Those visiting the Capitol today come together to  
15 honor an act of tremendous generosity and selflessness, and their  
16 tireless efforts in support of organ donation help bring transplant  
17 patients closer to realizing their wishes for longer and healthier  
18 lives; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
20 Legislature hereby recognize April as National Donate Life Month,  
21 commend the many individuals who have chosen to become organ  
22 donors, and encourage all Texans to consider giving the gift of life  
23 through organ donation.