

By: Zerwas

H.R. No. 1150

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Through medical expertise and advances in organ and
2 tissue transplants, more lives are being saved, improved, and
3 prolonged than ever before; and

4 WHEREAS, Such transplants are made possible by organ
5 donations from deceased and living persons, a noble act that gives
6 multitudes of recipients a second chance at life; and

7 WHEREAS, The Glenda Dawson Donate Life Texas registry,
8 created by the Texas House of Representatives and Texas Senate in
9 2005, provides a method for willing donors to record legal consent
10 for organ, eye, and tissue donation, thereby lifting the
11 decision-making burden from families at the time of a loved one's
12 death; and

13 WHEREAS, More than seven million Texans have joined the
14 registry to date, thanks in part to partnerships forged with the
15 Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Department of
16 Transportation that enable citizens to sign up during the driver's
17 license, ID, and vehicle registration processes; gratitude for this
18 endeavor is also owed to the tireless public education efforts of
19 the donation community and their passionate volunteers in Texas;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, While the Donate Life Texas registry is a notable
22 step, more work remains to be done to ensure that the wishes of
23 every potential donor are carried out; the wait for a lifesaving
24 organ transplant continues for more than 123,000 people nationwide,

1 21 of whom are expected to die before this day is over; and

2 WHEREAS, Individuals representing the Texas Transplantation
3 Society and the Glenda Dawson Donate Life Texas registry are united
4 in their mission to educate Texans about the critical and rising
5 need for donors, the transformative impact of donation, and the
6 simple steps that can be taken to register; in 2014, 739 people
7 became organ donors in Texas, resulting in successful transplant
8 operations for 2,600 patients; and

9 WHEREAS, The choice of registering as an organ donor is one
10 that can provide hope beyond measure to men, women, and children in
11 need, and those who have committed to the goal of promoting and
12 facilitating donations truly merit special commendation; now,
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
15 Legislature hereby recognize March 23, 2015, as Donate Life Texas
16 Day at the State Capitol, pay tribute to transplant donors and their
17 families, and encourage all Texans to consider giving the gift of
18 life through organ donation.