

By: Wu, Sheffield, Zerwas, Oliverson,
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H.C.R. No. 57

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Citizens across the Lone Star State recognize the
2 vital importance of organ, bone marrow, and blood donation; and

3 WHEREAS, Although 95 percent of adults support organ
4 donation, less than half of Americans are signed up to be donors;
5 additionally, only 2 percent of the population is on the national
6 registry for bone marrow, and while an estimated 38 percent of U.S.
7 residents are eligible to donate blood, less than 10 percent of that
8 group actually donates each year; and

9 WHEREAS, In Texas, organ donors can register online through
10 the Donate Life Texas organization or with the Texas Department of
11 Public Safety driver's license application or renewal, and there
12 are numerous centers for bone marrow and blood donation across the
13 state; furthermore, under Sections 661.916-661.917, Government
14 Code, state employees serving as organ, bone marrow, or blood
15 donors are entitled to a leave of absence or sufficient time off
16 without a deduction in pay; and

17 WHEREAS, Countless men, women, and children benefit each year
18 from the charity and sacrifice of those who donate blood, bone
19 marrow, and organs, and it is incumbent on all Texans to learn about
20 ways to contribute to these lifesaving procedures; now, therefore,
21 be it

22 RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas
23 hereby encourage Texans to donate bone marrow and blood and to
24 register as organ donors; and, be it further

1 RESOLVED, That all counties and cities be encouraged to adopt
2 the same policy as the state with regard to time off for public
3 employees not to exceed 5 working days in a fiscal year to serve as a
4 bone marrow donor or 30 working days in a fiscal year to serve as an
5 organ donor, and not to exceed four times in a fiscal year to donate
6 blood.