

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

March 29, 2016

Organ, tissue, marrow and blood donation are life-giving acts recognized worldwide as expressions of compassion to those in need. More than 121,000 individuals nationwide and more than 21,000 in California are currently on the national organ transplant waiting list. On average, 22 people die each day while waiting due to the shortage of donated organs.

The need for donated organs is especially urgent in Hispanic and African American communities. More than 600,000 units of blood per year are needed to meet the need in California. At any given time, 6,000 patients are in need of volunteer marrow donors.

A single individual's donation of the heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small intestine can save up to eight lives. Donation of tissue can save and heal the lives of up to 50 others, and a single blood donation can help three people in need. Millions of lives each year are saved and healed by donors of organs, tissues, marrow and blood.

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MOTION

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

KUEHL _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

SOLIS _____

The spirit of giving and decision to donate are not restricted by age or medical condition. Over 12 million Californians have signed up with the state-authorized Donate Life California Donor Registry to ensure their wishes to be organ, eye and tissue donors are honored. California residents can sign up with the Donate Life California Donor Registry when applying for or renewing their driver's licenses or ID cards at the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles does hereby proclaim the month of April 2016 as “**DMV/Donate Life California Month**” and in doing so, we encourage all County residents to check “**YES!**” when applying for or renewing their driver's license or ID Card.

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