

## 2002 SESSION

ENROLLED

### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 133

*Requesting the Virginia Transplant Council to encourage all donor families to become involved in its interagency donor family activities.*

Agreed to by the Senate, February 12, 2002

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 25, 2002

WHEREAS, the Virginia Transplant Council was established by the General Assembly of Virginia in 1985 to educate the public about the importance of organ and tissue donation and the contributions such donations make to the health and lives of thousands of people; and

WHEREAS, the Council has performed its duties and responsibilities with expertise and distinction; and

WHEREAS, the demand for donor organs and tissues continues to increase and the innovations in the medical uses of the donor organs and tissues make it possible for many people to continue living or to lead better, healthier lives; and

WHEREAS, both the tissue banking industry and the reasons for procuring tissue donations have grown greatly over recent years because of medical innovations; and

WHEREAS, the transplant community depends on the good will and altruism of the public for obtaining organ and tissue donations, and the blood donations that support transplantation; and

WHEREAS, donor families are, of necessity, approached at a time of great stress and shock for consent to organ and tissue donation; and

WHEREAS, donor families come from every walk of life and every religious and ethnic group; and

WHEREAS, donor families' expectations concerning the use and disposition of their loved one's organs or tissues must be given sensitive and careful consideration; and

WHEREAS, at the state level, organ procurement organizations and other industry providers have established programs for donor families that include counseling and opportunities for input; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Transplant Council has pulled together an interagency activity that includes statewide representation from its members' donor family programs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Virginia Transplant Council be requested to encourage all donor families to become involved in its interagency donor family activities; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia Transplant Council to apprise the members of this request.

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