

2010 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 190

Designating April 9, in 2010 and in each succeeding year, as Teen Organ Donation Awareness Day in Virginia.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 29, 2010

Agreed to by the Senate, March 2, 2010

WHEREAS, life is a precious gift and many people survive life-threatening illnesses and enjoy an enhanced quality of life through the generosity and thoughtfulness of others who are organ and tissue donors; and

WHEREAS, currently, more than 105,000 people are awaiting an organ transplant in the United States, more than 2,500 of whom are in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, one donor can save seven lives through organ donation and enhance the lives of more than 50 people through eye and tissue donation; and

WHEREAS, on average, more than 28,000 transplants are performed in the United States each year and approximately 700 of those are performed in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, approximately 18 men, women, and children die each day waiting for an organ donation in the United States; and

WHEREAS, more than half of the national transplant waiting list is made up of ethnic minorities; transplant success rates are highest among donors of the same racial background; and

WHEREAS, April 9 marks the anniversary of the death of one Virginia teen donor, Brooks Norfleet Berry of Richmond; through the donation of his tissues and six of his organs after an untimely death, four people's lives were saved; and

WHEREAS, April is National Donate Life Month and it is fitting that a day be set aside in the Commonwealth to honor teenagers who have become donors, educate teenagers about organ donation and encourage them to discuss their wishes with their loved ones, and encourage schools, community organizations, and other programs to embrace organ donation education; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate April 9, in 2010 and in each succeeding year, as Teen Organ Donation Awareness Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.

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