HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010 STATE OF HAWAII

H.R. NO. 72

HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING MARCH 11, 2010, AS WORLD KIDNEY DAY AND APRIL 2010 AS ORGAN DONOR AWARENESS MONTH IN HAWAII.

WHEREAS, organ donation is the gift of a kidney, heart, 1 lung, liver, pancreas, or other vital organ for medical 2 transplantation to others in serious need; and 3 4 WHEREAS, organ transplantation is regarded as a standard 5 6 medical treatment for a number of medical conditions and diseases, including chronic kidney disease, and thousands of 7 8 individuals receive life-saving organ transplants each year; and 9 10 WHEREAS, survival rates following an organ transplant are impressive; for instance, the one-year survival rate for kidney 11 transplant recipients is almost ninety-six per cent, for heart 12 recipients, over eight-two per cent, and for liver recipients, 13 14 more than eighty per cent; and 15 WHEREAS, despite the growing number of successful 16 transplant operations each year, more than one hundred thousand 17 people nationwide remain on the waiting list for an organ, and 18 in Hawaii, approximately three hundred seventy-five seriously-19 ill people of all ethnic groups are waiting for a liver, kidney, 20 21 or pancreas transplant; and 22 23 WHEREAS, nationwide, approximately sixteen people in need of an organ transplant die every day, and in 2008, sixteen 24 25 people died in Hawaii while on the organ transplant waitlist; 26 and 27 28 WHEREAS, the majority of transplant candidates on the transplant waiting list in Hawaii are awaiting a donor kidney, 29 and the majority of the transplant operations performed in 30 Hawaii are kidney transplants; and 31 32 33 WHEREAS, one person's donated vital organs can save up to seven other people's lives who need an organ transplant; and 34 35



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WHEREAS, persons who wish to become organ donors should let others know their wishes by registering with a state donor registry, saying "yes" to organ donation on their driver's license, telling their family, friends, physicians, and faith leaders that they want to be a donor, or filling out and signing a donor card; and WHEREAS, in Hawaii, persons may easily register to become organ donors by registering on the Donate Life Hawaii website (www.donatelifehawaii.com); and WHEREAS, March 11, 2010, is World Kidney Day, organized to raise awareness of kidney disease prevention, promote. preventative behavior, and encourage screenings for diabetes and hypertension, both of which contribute to chronic kidney disease; and WHEREAS, April is National Organ Donor Awareness Month, and in Hawaii it is important to honor those who have saved others by donating their organs and to raise awareness about the importance of organ donation and the need for donor organs; now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, that this body recognizes March 11, 2010, as World Kidney Day; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all residents of Hawaii are encouraged to learn more about kidney disease and its risk factors and healthy behaviors that can reduce risk for diabetes and other chronic kidney diseases; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that persons are encouraged to have kidney and cardiovascular health screenings, free of charge, at the Hawaii State Capitol on World Kidney Day; and

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body recognizes April 2010 39 as Organ Donor Awareness Month in Hawaii; and

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all residents of Hawaii are 42 encouraged to learn more about the need for organ donation and 43 discuss organ donation with their families, physicians, and 44 religious leaders; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each county's driver's licensing division is urged to cooperate with the Organ Donor Center of Hawaii to educate the public about organ donation; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that local businesses such as gas companies, electric companies, and cable television companies

8 are encouraged to provide their customers with educational 9 materials on organ donation along with their April 2010 billing 10 statements; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Hawaii, the 13 counties, and other local employers are encouraged to provide 14 their employees with educational materials on organ donation 15 along with their paychecks and direct deposit statements in 16 April 2010; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 18 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Comptroller, and 19 20 the Chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission, who in turn is requested to distribute copies of this Resolution to the 21 chief executive officer of each regulated electric company and 22 gas company in the State, the Director of Commerce and Consumer 23 Affairs who in turn is requested to distribute copies of this 24 25 Resolution to the chief executive officer of each cable television company in the State, the Director of Finance of each 26 county, the Executive Director of the Organ Donor Center of 27 Hawaii; and the Executive Director of the Hawaii chapter of the 28 National Kidney Foundation. 29

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