

STATE OF MAINE

**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE**

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2021 AS ORGAN
DONATION MONTH**

WHEREAS, there are more than 108,000 Americans, with more than 6,000 in New England, who are currently waiting for a life-saving organ transplant; and

WHEREAS, there are over one million life-enhancing tissue transplants each year that are made possible by the generous donation of corneas, bone, skin or other tissue; and

WHEREAS, we can all help save up to 8 people's lives and benefit up to 50 recipients by signing up to become an organ and tissue donor by enrolling in the Maine Organ Donor Registry when we apply for, or renew, our driver's licenses or by registering online at the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles website; and

WHEREAS, 99% of all people in Maine who register to become a donor do so at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles; last year, Maine met the national goal of signing up 50% of our driving population to register as donors and we are dedicated to increasing that percentage and making it fast and easy to sign up to save a life through our Bureau of Motor Vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Maine surgeons, physicians, nurses and other health care professionals provide life-saving organ transplant services to the people of the State; and

WHEREAS, this observance pays tribute to organ and tissue donors and their families whose decision to donate life enables others to receive life-saving organs and tissues for transplant; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the members of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize April 2021 as Organ Donation Month and encourage all citizens of the State to register as an organ and tissue donor on their driver's licenses, identification cards or REAL ID cards.