

1                                   **RESOLUTION URGING AVAILABILITY OF**  
2                                   **TRANSPLANT ORGANS THROUGH COMMUNITY**  
3                                   **PLEDGE PROGRAMS**

4                                   2001 GENERAL SESSION

5                                   STATE OF UTAH

6                                   **Sponsor: Mike Dmitrich**

7   **This concurrent resolution of the Legislature and the Governor urges Utah's communities,**  
8   **businesses, educators, service clubs, and interfaith organizations to lead the way in**  
9   **organizing efforts to raise public awareness and education regarding organ and tissue**  
10 **donation to save lives.**

11 *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:*

12           WHEREAS, Utah's Coalition for Organ, Eye and Tissue Donation, in partnership with The  
13 Quest for the Gift of Life Foundation, is implementing a statewide, community-based pledge  
14 program to involve local governments, businesses, communities, service clubs, educators, and  
15 interfaith councils to combine efforts in accomplishing meaningful initiatives that will raise public  
16 awareness and education regarding organ transplantation;

17           WHEREAS, the National Coalition for Organ, Eye and Tissue Donation published  
18 statistics that show 70,000 people are currently waiting for a life-saving organ transplant with only  
19 6,000 organ donations taking place annually, resulting in 12-16 lives lost daily due to lack of a  
20 needed organ;

21           WHEREAS, 30% of driver's license donor registrants, upon an unexpected death, do not  
22 become donors because their next of kin were unaware of their desire to donate or their next of kin  
23 chose not to donate regardless of the signed donor registration card; and

24           WHEREAS, enough organs are available but cannot be accessed due to a lack of education  
25 and a clear understanding about organ and tissue donation, including the misconception that  
26 donations are incompatible with religious beliefs:

27           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the



28 Governor concurring therein, urges Utah's local governments, communities, businesses, educators,  
29 service clubs, and interfaith organizations to pledge to join in "leading the way" by helping to raise  
30 public awareness and education regarding organ and tissue donation for the purpose of saving  
31 lives.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor support a spring  
33 media event announcing that Utah is committed to lead the way as a model for other states to  
34 follow in raising public awareness and education, through meaningful organ transplant initiatives,  
35 to help eliminate the existing shortage of transplant organs and to provide all potential recipients  
36 a second chance of life.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Utah  
38 Association of Counties, the Utah League of Cities and Towns, Utah's Chambers of Commerce,  
39 the Utah State Office of Education, the Utah Department of Health, the Utah Coalition for Organ,  
40 Eye and Tissue Donation, the Quest for the Gift of Life Foundation, the Utah Attorney General's  
41 Office, the Salt Lake City Mayor's Office, and the Salt Lake County Mayor's Office.

---

---

**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 2-22-01 1:08 PM**

A limited legal review of this legislation raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**