

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 130

BY REPRESENTATIVES HODGES, CORMIER, EDMONSTON, FIRMENT, HORTON,
LARVADAIN, CHARLES OWEN, SCHAMERHORN, SELDERS, AND WRIGHT

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, to include in all driver education programs classroom or educational setting information about organ, eye, and tissue donation.

WHEREAS, a person can register as an organ, eye, and tissue donor in the state of Louisiana by saying 'yes' when applying for a driver's license or state identification card or by signing up on the Louisiana donor registry; and

WHEREAS, over two thousand people are awaiting life-saving organ transplants in the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, over fifty people can benefit from one donor's tissue donation; and

WHEREAS, two people can have sight restored from one eye donor; and

WHEREAS, the lack of knowledge about organ donation is one of the main factors leading to the shortage of organ donation; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing need to educate and ensure potential donors have the information they need to make sound decisions; and

WHEREAS, people often disqualify themselves as potential donors by citing misconceptions; and

WHEREAS, the office of motor vehicles certifies other driver education and training courses; and

WHEREAS, according to the office of motor vehicles, over four million persons are recorded as having Class "E" driver's license; and

WHEREAS, every year, tens of thousands of young people apply for their first driver's license or state identification card; and

WHEREAS, according to the office of motor vehicles, seven hundred seventy thousand one hundred twenty-six Class "E" driver licenses were issued this past year; and

WHEREAS, Aliye Ringe, a then resident of Central, Louisiana made the selfless decision at the age of sixteen when obtaining her driver's license to register as an organ donor; and

WHEREAS, Aliye Ringe was involved in a fatal crash on December 22, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Aliye Ringe's decision to become an organ donor saved the lives of five persons on Christmas day; and

WHEREAS, the opportunity to register as an organ, eye, and tissue donor should be included in all driver education and training programs to afford a potential donor a chance to save and heal the lives of others after death; and

WHEREAS, each day, approximately seventeen people die waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant and a new name is added to the transplant waiting list every nine minutes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, to include in all driver education programs classroom or educational setting information about organ, eye, and tissue donation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works no later than March 1, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, and to the family of Aliye Ringe.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES