



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, each year, National Donate Life Month is observed during the month of April, and New Yorkers join to recognize the altruism and humanitarianism of those who are inspired to “give the gift of life” to a fellow human being; and

Whereas, one person can save eight lives through organ donation, restore sight through cornea donation, and improve 75 more lives through tissue donation; and

Whereas, more than 5 million New Yorkers have enrolled in the New York State Donate Life Registry to indicate their intended wish to become organ and tissues donors in the event of their death; and

Whereas, there remains a severe shortage of organs available for transplant in the United States and in New York State, with over 110,000 adults and children currently on the national waiting list for an organ or tissue transplant, including nearly 10,000 New Yorkers, and tens of thousands more in need of bone, corneal, or other tissue transplants; and

Whereas, issued October 16, 2017, Executive Order No. 171 establishes that the policy of New York State is to increase the number of registered organ donors, as the increased availability of donated organs would reduce the severity and length of many forms of injury and illness, and the cost of public medical services, thereby improving public health and safety; and

Whereas, legislation which took effect in February 2017 authorizes sixteen and seventeen year olds to enroll in the New York State Donate Life Registry, with the potential to significantly help increase donation levels; and

Whereas, New York State organ procurement organizations and eye and tissue banks work to educate the public about the critical need for persons to become organ, eye, and tissue donors and increase enrollment in the New York State Donate Life Registry; and

Whereas, without the selfless acts of persons who choose to become organ and tissue donors and the efforts of New York State organ procurement organizations, donor hospitals, and transplant centers, the “miracle of donation” would not occur, and New Yorkers are asked to learn more about the life saving and disability resolving impact of organ and tissue donation, and are encouraged to enroll with the New York State Donate Life Registry; and

Whereas, during National Donate Life Month, we are all reminded to consider the far-reaching impact that organ and tissue donation has, to discuss donation with family and friends, to consider enrolling in the Donate Life Registry, while also taking the opportunity to honor donors for their immense generosity in giving others the greatest gift of all – the gift of life;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim April 2018 as

DONATE LIFE MONTH

in the Empire State.



G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this tenth day
of April in the year two thousand eighteen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor
Melissa DeRosa