

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY
MOTION NO.**

TITLE: Proclaiming April as Donate Life Month in Chautauqua County

AT THE REQUEST OF: Legislators Harmon and Proctor:

WHEREAS, through their membership in the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC), New York's Counties have come together to collectively support several important causes; and

WHEREAS, in New York State there are approximately 8,000 people waiting for an organ transplant which represents the third highest need in the nation; and there are an estimated 400 New Yorkers that die every year while waiting for an organ transplant; and

WHEREAS, a single individual's donation of the heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small intestine can save up to eight lives; donation of tissue can save and heal the lives of up to 75 others; and

WHEREAS, organ, eye and tissue donation are life-giving and healing acts recognized worldwide as expressions of compassion to those in need; and

WHEREAS, New York State's County governments play a key role in raising awareness of the need for organ, eye and tissue donation through the interactions County officials have with the public with regard to this subject through local DMV offices, local boards of elections, departments of health, naturalization ceremonies and veterans' programs; and

WHEREAS, such interactions by Chautauqua County officials with the public provide opportunities for the provision of information on how individuals can help their fellow New Yorkers by signing up as organ and tissue donors; and

WHEREAS, counties across New York State are proclaiming the month of April 2024 as "Donate Life Month," and engaging in various awareness activities designed to promote an increase in the number of registered organ, eye and tissue donations; and

WHEREAS, the Chautauqua County Clerk's Office, through its Department of Motor Vehicles, wish to promote the month of April 2024 as "Donate Life Month" in Chautauqua County; now, therefore, be it

MOVED, that the Chautauqua County Legislature hereby proclaims the month of April 2024 as "Donate Life Month" in Chautauqua County, and encourages those Chautauqua County departments and agencies involved in providing information on organ and tissue donations and enrolling in the New York State Donate Life Registry to engage in activities throughout the month to increase the number of organ and tissue donors and promote awareness of the need for organ and tissue donations in Chautauqua County; and be it

FURTHER MOVED, that the Clerk to the Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Kathleen Hochul, Senator George Borrello, and Assemblyman Andrew Goodell and the New York State Association of Counties and all others deemed necessary and proper.