



# PROCLAMATION

## DESIGNATING APRIL AS NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH

- **WHEREAS**, one of the most meaningful gifts that a human being can bestow upon another is the gift of life; and
- **WHEREAS**, more than 100,000 men, women, and children await lifesaving or life-enhancing organ transplants, of which nearly 3,000 reside in Georgia; and
- **WHEREAS**, 48,149 a record number of transplants, occurred in the calendar year 2024 thanks to the generosity of 24,020 deceased and living donors, of which 1,460 transplant patients and 650 deceased and living donors, also a record number, were from Georgia; and
- **WHEREAS**, more than 2.5 million people throughout the country and in Georgia benefit annually from tissue transplantation thanks to thousands of tissue donors; and
- **WHEREAS**, the need for organ, eye, and tissue donation remains critical as a new patient is added to the national waiting list for an organ transplant every 8 minutes and millions more could experience improved quality of life through tissue transplantation; and
- **WHEREAS**, the critical donor shortage remains a public health crisis as an average of 16 people die daily due to the lack of available organs; and
- **WHEREAS**, organ, eye, and tissue donation can provide families the comfort of knowing the gift of donated organs and tissue endows another person with renewed hope for a healthy life; and
- **WHEREAS**, donating life through organ, eye, and tissue donation is the ultimate act of generosity and kindness we County citizens can perform; and
- **WHEREAS**, nearly than 3.8 million Georgians have already registered their decision to give the Gift of Life at [www.donatelifegeorgia.org](http://www.donatelifegeorgia.org), when getting or renewing their driver license or state identification card at a driver license office, or when getting a hunting or fishing license through the Department of Natural Resources; and
- **WHEREAS**, LifeLink® of Georgia, the non-profit organization dedicated to the recovery of organs and tissue for transplantation therapy in Georgia, with a vision to maximize the gift of life while giving hope to donor families and transplant patients and mission to honor donors and save lives through organ and tissue donation; and
- **WHEREAS**, Effingham County supports the life-saving mission of LifeLink® of Georgia; and
- **NOW, THEREFORE**, Effingham County do hereby proclaim April 2025 as National Donate Life Month

Presented on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025



**DAMON RAHN** – *Chairman at Large*

**FORREST FLOYD** – *1<sup>st</sup> District*

**ROGER BURDETTE** – *2<sup>nd</sup> District*

**JAMIE DELOACH** – *3<sup>rd</sup> District*

**BETH HELMLY** – *4<sup>th</sup> District*

**PHIL KIEFFER** – *5<sup>th</sup> District*