

Staff Report

Subject: Proclamation for Donate Life Month
Author: Stephanie Johnson, County Clerk
Department: Administration
Meeting Date: 03/17/2026
Item Description: Consideration to approve a Proclamation declaring April 2026 as Donate Life Month

Summary Recommendation:

Staff support the Proclamation as presented by LifeLink .

Executive Summary:

The Board of Commissioners commonly supports initiatives which provide awareness and a better quality of life for all citizens of Effingham County.

Background:

LifeLink is a nonprofit organization, started more than 30 years ago, led by nephrologist Dr. Dana Shires. The initiative was a commitment to save lives through organ and tissue donation. LifeLink has more than 500 full and part-time staff across the country. LifeLink Foundation is made up of five (5) divisions: LifeLink of Florida, LifeLink of Georgia, LifeLink of Puerto Rico, LifeLink Transplantation Immunology Laboratory and LifeLink Tissue Bank.

LifeLink of Georgia and LifeLink of Puerto Rico are within LifeLink Foundation and represent 3 of 57 federally designated organ procurement organizations throughout the United States.

In 2024 there were 932 organ donors honored and 2,5756 organ transplants. There are +90,000 lives improved annually through tissue transplantation made possible by donors and their families and the LifeLink Tissue Bank. More than \$2million was provided by LifeLink Legacy Fund for organ transplant patients in need of financial assistance.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Approve the Proclamation as presented.
2. To not approve the Proclamation.

Recommended Alternative: Staff recommends Alternative number 1

Other Alternatives: N/A

Department Review: Administration

Funding Source: No funding is required.

Attachments:

1. Proclamation