

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
1985 SESSION
RATIFIED BILL

RESOLUTION 13
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 458

A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING MATTHEW WILKES BROWN AND
RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF ORGAN DONATIONS.

Whereas, Matthew Wilkes Brown was born in Hamlet in Richmond County on February 1, 1968, and resided in Moore County before his death on March 27, 1984, the victim of a tragic automobile accident; and

Whereas, Matthew Wilkes Brown attended Pinecrest High School, was a member of the Aberdeen Junior Rescue Squad, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and the First Baptist Church of Aberdeen; and was active in numerous school and church activities; and

Whereas, throughout his young life, Matthew Wilkes Brown displayed a deep concern for others and was known as a peacemaker among his peers; and

Whereas, because of his concern for others, Matthew Wilkes Brown decided to register as an organ donor when he received his first driver's license; and

Whereas, upon his death, Matthew Wilkes Brown's heart and both kidneys were transplanted in others, thereby enabling three people to live, and his corneas were also transplanted in others after one served as an essential standby in another eye operation, thereby enabling three people to see; and

Whereas, the need for organs is critical in this country, and hundreds of people in North Carolina and over a hundred thousand people in the United States are in need of vital organs and tissues; and

Whereas, April 21 through 27 was designated National Donor Week by the Congress and the American Council on Transplantation; and

Whereas, Matthew Wilkes Brown is survived by his father, Charles Brown; his mother, Leslie Peek; his stepmother, Elizabeth Brown; his brother Richard David Brown; and his sister, Tammy Lynn Brown; and

Whereas, Matthew Wilkes Brown's life demonstrated that it is not the quantity but the quality of life that is important;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring:

Section 1. The North Carolina General Assembly honors the memory of Matthew Wilkes Brown and expresses its deepest sympathy to his family. The General Assembly also expresses its admiration for the example of selfless concern set by Matthew Wilkes Brown in deciding to donate his organs so that others might find renewed life and health, and commends the family of Matthew Wilkes Brown for their courage during their son's tragedy and their efforts to encourage others to become organ donors.

Sec. 2. The General Assembly recognizes the vital need in this State and nation for organs for transplants and urges all citizens of North Carolina to follow the example set by Matthew Wilkes Brown.

Sec. 3. The Secretary of State shall send a certified copy of this resolution to the family of Matthew Wilkes Brown.

Sec. 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 21st day of May, 1985.