

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 36**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVE SANDERS**

**Introduced: 3/9/95**

**Referred: Health, Education and Social Services, State Affairs**

**A RESOLUTION**

**1 Supporting Gift of Life Congressional Medals.**

**2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

**3       WHEREAS**, on October 3, 1994, Senator Frank Murkowski and 31 cosponsors  
**4** introduced S. 2495 in the United States Congress, a bill that would authorize the awarding of  
**5** Gift of Life Congressional Medals to organ and tissue donors or to the families of the donors;  
**6** and

**7       WHEREAS** the medals would commemorate organ and tissue donors and their  
**8** families, recognize their compassion and courage, and encourage others to make similar  
**9** sacrifices; and

**10       WHEREAS** each day in the United States eight Americans on organ transplant lists  
**11** die because of a lack of organ donations, and every 20 minutes another name is added to the  
**12** list of those persons awaiting transplants; and

**13       WHEREAS** by recognizing the generosity of donors and their families, the medals  
**14** may increase the number of organ and tissue donations by encouraging the donation of organs  
**15** and tissue, and may save lives as well as money; thousands of beneficiaries have been  
**16** removed from Medicare's end stage renal disease program after successful kidney transplants,  
**17** but 20,000 patients remain on dialysis at a cost of \$390,000,000 a year in federal Medicare

1 dollars;

2 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports the awarding of Gift  
3 of Life Congressional Medals, and urges the United States Congress and the President of the  
4 United States to support and enact S. 2495.

5 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the  
6 United States; the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President  
7 of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President Pro Tempore of the U.S.  
8 Senate; the Honorable Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the  
9 Honorable Robert Dole, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens  
10 and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.  
11 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.