

Proclamation

DMV/Donate Life California Month April 2016

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

WHEREAS, more than 121,000 individuals nationwide and more than 21,000 in California are currently on the national organ transplant waiting list, and on average, 22 people die each day while waiting due to the shortage of donated organs; and

WHEREAS, the need for donated organs is especially urgent in Hispanic and African American communities; and

WHEREAS, more than 600,000 units of blood per year are needed to meet the need in California; and

WHEREAS, at any given time, 6,000 patients are in need of volunteer marrow donors; 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 50 others; and a single blood donation can help three people in need; and

WHEREAS, millions of lives each year are saved and healed by donors of organs, tissues, marrow and blood; and

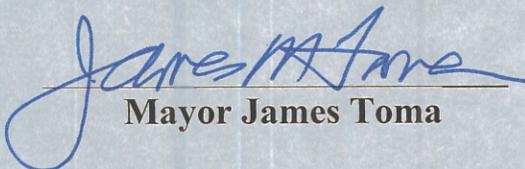
WHEREAS, the spirit of giving and decision to donate are not restricted by age or medical condition; and

WHEREAS, over twelve million Californians have signed up with the state-authorized Donate Life California Donor Registry to ensure their wishes to be organ, eye and tissue donors are honored; and

WHEREAS, California residents can sign up with the Donate Life California Donor Registry when applying for or renewing their driver's licenses or ID cards at the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, James Toma, Mayor of West Covina, that in recognition of National Donate Life Month, the month of April 2016 is hereby proclaimed "**DMV/Donate Life California Month**" in the City of West Covina, and in doing so we encourage all Californians to check "YES!" when applying for or renewing their driver's license or I.D. card, or by signing up at www.donateLIFeCalifornia.org or www.doneVIDAcalifornia.org.

On this 5th day of April, 2016


Mayor James Toma

