

November 07, 2025

The Honorable Brett Guthrie, Chair
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone Jr., Ranking
Member
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2107 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Request for Hearing on H.R. 4583, the *Living Donor Protection Act of 2025*

Dear Chairman Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone:

On behalf of the over 100,000 individuals currently awaiting a lifesaving organ transplant, the undersigned twenty-one patient and professional organizations respectfully request that the House Energy and Commerce Committee schedule a hearing on the *Living Donor Protection Act* as soon as the government reopens.

The Living Donor Protection Act is bipartisan, cost-neutral legislation that addresses critical barriers facing living organ donors. In the House, H.R. 4583 prohibits discrimination against living donors obtaining life, disability, and long-term care insurance. It has dual referrals to House Energy and Commerce Committee and House Financial Services Committee. A companion bill, H.R. 4582 clarifies that donors are eligible for unpaid time off from work via the Family Medical Leave Act to complete their donation and recovery.

Every day, 17 people die on the transplant waitlist; 14 of them were waiting for a kidney. Of the approximately 90,000 people on the kidney transplant wait list, only 27,759 received a kidney transplant in 2024, with only 6,418 coming from living donors. A transplant from a living donor has the best chance for long-term success.

Unfortunately, almost a quarter of living donors report discrimination in the rates and provision of life insurance, disability insurance, and long-term care insurance. Living donors complete a detailed health screening ensuring they are healthy enough to donate and live healthy lives post-donation and yet still face difficulty obtaining or maintaining insurance.

Transplant is the gold standard of care for kidney failure. It improves patient quality of life and extends life expectancy while also costing Medicare less than long-term dialysis. Liver transplant is the treatment of choice for patients with end-stage liver disease as well as certain liver cancers. Removing barriers to living donation can help expand the number of transplants and save lives.

The LDPA is supported by the American Council of Life Insurers and over twenty patient and provider organizations. The current legislation already has 90 bipartisan cosponsors, including 10 members of the Energy and Commerce Committee. Previous legislation in the 118th Congress was cosponsored by 226 bipartisan Representatives and 44 bipartisan Senators.

We urge the Committee to prioritize this lifesaving legislation by scheduling a hearing at the earliest opportunity following the reopening of government. The time-sensitive nature of organ donation and the daily loss of life on the transplant waitlist make swift Congressional action imperative.

Please contact Lauren Drew at the National Kidney Foundation (lauren.drew@kidney.org) if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Alport Syndrome Foundation

American Association for the Study of Liver
Diseases
American Kidney Fund

American Liver Foundation
American Nephrology Nurses Association
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
Children's Organ Transplant Association
Dialysis Patient Citizens
DOVE (Donor Outreach for Veterans)
IGA Nephropathy Foundation
Kidney Transplant Collaborative
National Kidney Foundation
NephCure
Nonprofit Kidney Care Alliance
North American Transplant Coordinators
Organization
PKD Foundation
Renal Physicians Association
Renal Support Network
Society for Transplant Social Workers
Transplant Recipients International
Organization (TRIO)

CC: The Honorable Morgan Griffith, Chair,
Health Subcommittee
The Honorable Diana DeGette,
Ranking Member, Health
Subcommittee