



Nonprofit Kidney Care Alliance

March 17, 2017

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
2109 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jaime Herrera Beutler
1107 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Nadler and Congresswoman Herrera Beutler:

On behalf of the Nonprofit Kidney Care Alliance (NKCA), I write to commend you for your introduction of the Living Donor Protection Act (H.R. 1270). We believe this bipartisan legislation would provide necessary protection and assistance to individuals who wish to become living donors for the over 120,000 people on waiting lists for organs, 100,000 of whom are in need of a kidney.

NKCA represents five nonprofit dialysis providers: Centers for Dialysis Care; Dialysis Clinic, Inc.; Independent Dialysis Foundation, Inc.; Northwest Kidney Centers; and The Rogosin Institute. Collectively, we serve over 20,000 patients at more than 280 clinics in 30 states. We believe that by counseling patients earlier regarding their treatment options, patients will get on the transplant wait list sooner and are more likely to receive a pre-emptive transplant. This allows additional time to have discussions with friends and family members to increase the likelihood of a living donation. In 2016, NKCA and its member companies participated in the White House Organ Summit. Through the summit, NKCA committed to launch new programs to increase access to transplant for more than 4,000 chronic kidney disease (CKD) and end stage renal disease (ESRD) patients through local outreach and awareness campaigns, and programs to educate patients on their care options, including transplant, and help them navigate the process.

Passing this legislation would eliminate some of the barriers to living donation that currently exist by improving access to insurance and continued insurability among living donors, allowing employee leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act, and raising awareness on living organ donation. This legislation provides a significant step towards increasing living donor transplant rates.

We appreciate your leadership on this issue to increase awareness and provide support for living organ donation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 202-580-7707 or info@nonprofitkidneycare.org.

Sincerely,

Martin Corry
Executive Director