



Nonprofit Kidney Care Alliance

May 3, 2016

The Honorable Mark Kirk
524 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
478 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kirk and Senator Gillibrand:

On behalf of the Nonprofit Kidney Care Alliance (NKCA), I write to commend you for your introduction of S. 2584, the Living Donor Protection Act. 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 early on their treatment options, patients will get on the 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.

Passing this legislation would eliminate some of the barriers to living donation that currently exist: 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