Kidneys can be donated by a living person in good health.

Nearly 95,000 people are on the wait list for a kidney transplant, and more than 3,600 people died in 2018 before ever receiving a kidney transplant.

In 2018, nearly 21,200 kidney transplants were performed, one-third of which were made possible by living donors. Living donors make a substantial contribution to increasing the number of transplants performed each year.

The Living Donor Protection Act, introduced by Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Tom Cotton (R-AR), and Representatives Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) and Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA), will protect living organ donors and help remove barriers to donation. Under this act, insurance companies are prohibited from denying or limiting life, disability, and long-term care insurance to living donors, and from charging higher premiums.

The bill also clarifies that living organ donors may use time granted through the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) to recover from donation.

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