

Current Situation

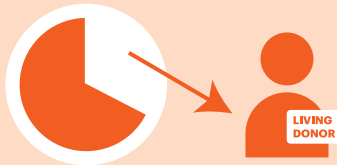


Kidneys can be donated by a living person in good health.



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.

20,000 kidney transplants



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.

Co-sponsor and help pass:



The Living Donor Protection Act (S. 511/H.R. 1224)



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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Sources of Facts and Statistics: Organ Procurement and Transplant Network United States Renal Data System (USRDS) (2017).

05-61-7448_BBJ

Problems/Barriers



In a 2015 study of living donors, 25% of those who tried to change or initiate life insurance were rejected or charged higher premiums based on their status as an organ donor.

Source: *Boyersky, B. J., Massie, A. B., Alejo, J. L., Arendonk, K. J., Wildonger, S., Garonzik-Wang, J. M., Segev, D. L. (2014). Experiences Obtaining Insurance After Live Kidney Donation. American Journal of Transplantation, 14(9), 2168-2172. doi:10.1111/ajt.12819*



There is no federal law to ensure that donors will not lose their jobs for taking time off for organ donation surgery and recovery.



Lack of insurance protection, higher premiums, and loss of job are barriers for someone who wants to donate an organ.