# PROTECT & SUPPORT LIVING ORGAN DONORS



Every year, 6,000 Americans become living donors of kidneys, livers, and other organs to save the lives of family members, friends, colleagues, and even complete strangers. Yet another name is added to the transplant waitlist every 10 minutes. Discriminatory insurance policy is dissuading people from participating in this crucial assistance.

Living organ donation provides chronic disease patients a second chance at life and is more effective and cost-efficient than dialysis and posthumous donation. Unfortunately, organ donors often face a variety of discriminatory practices from unexpected out-of-pocket expenses to ongoing insurance coverage issues.

#### Giving the gift of life shouldn't come with fear of discrimination.

There are more than 100,000 people currently on the transplant waiting list in the U.S., while many potential donors are discouraged from giving because of:

- Sudden increases in health insurance rates
- Workplace retaliation such as job loss
- Soaring out-of-pocket costs

We can open the doors to more life-saving living donations with common-sense, bipartisan policy solutions such as: insurance protections, paid or job-protected leave for private and public employers, tax credits for employers who provide paid leave, direct donor reimbursements, employee tax credits or tax deductions, and extended family medical leave.

### Dozens of states take steps every year to alleviate challenges facing potential donors, their recipients, and their families.

As kidney disease and other chronic disease rates continue to rise across the country, the Chronic Disease Coalition supports living organ donor protections, incentives and reimbursements.



Peter Yung (left) with kidney recipient Gil Dong (right).

"While I was fortunate to have a relatively smooth procedure and recovery, [donor protections] would have provided me with financial stability at a time when my I really needed it."

## Peter Yung,California KidneyDonor

Read Peter's story

#### Interested in learning more?

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