Andrew Fullerton
National Kidney Foundation
The Birth of a Bill
NKF Election Center

Vote.Kidney.Org

- Find out who is running for federal office in your area!
- Links to find out how to register for absentee ballots
- Some tips for voting safely if you must go in-person
- Requirements to vote, such as required IDs for first time voters
ASK: $10 million for Kidney Risk Campaign

One of the key goals of the Administration’s July 2019 Advancing American Kidney Health (AAKH) initiative is a public awareness campaign to enhance kidney disease awareness, educate clinical professionals and spur innovation by entities serving the kidney disease community.

NKF has launched the Are You the 33%? campaign and is seeking a $10 million appropriation to support our work in reaching at-risk Americans.
# The Comprehensive Immunosuppressive Drug Coverage for Kidney Transplant Patients Act (S. 3353/H.R. 5534)

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<th>Why?</th>
<th>What Does it Do?</th>
<th>What Next?</th>
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| • Kidney recipients who are non-aged/disabled receive Medicare coverage of immunosuppressants for only 36 months post-transplant.  
• Patients risk their transplant by skipping doses, splitting their pills, or are forced to make difficult choices between paying for basic necessities or for medicine they need to prevent losing their transplant.  
• Others may not qualify for a transplant because they don’t have the financial resources to cover post-transplant care, including immunosuppressive drugs. | • Extends Medicare coverage of immunosuppressive drugs for the life of a kidney transplant, beyond the 36-month post-transplant cut-off currently in place covering these lifesaving medications.  
• A preliminary CBO estimate shows $70 million would be saved over ten years. | • Have your friends and family write Congress here: https://advocacy.kidney.org/  
• Write to your contact in your Representative’s office to ask them to co-sponsor or thank them for co-sponsoring. |
## Living Donor Protection Act (S. 511 / H.R. 1224)

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<th>What does it do?</th>
<th>Why?</th>
<th>Momentum!</th>
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| • Prohibits discrimination in benefit levels, pricing, and issuance of life, long-term care, and disability based solely on their status as organ donors.  
• Codifies that FMLA covers living organ donation. | • In a 2015 study by Johns Hopkins University of the 186 donors who changed or initiated life insurance after donation, 46 (25%) reported difficulty obtaining their desired coverage; 23 (12%) were denied altogether, 27 (15%) were charged a higher premium, and 17 (9%) were told they had a preexisting condition because they were kidney donors. | • 19 Senators and 80 Representatives are co-sponsors in Congress  
• State versions passed: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, New York, Oklahoma, and Oregon  
• More in the works! |
Role of the Patient Advocate

- Better kidney health policy isn’t possible without your involvement

- You’re not a professional lobbyist – good!

- Humanizing the facts and figures

- The unique and lasting power of personal stories
Join The Kidney Advocacy Committee

**REPRESENT**
the full spectrum of the kidney disease community.

**INFLUENCE**
kidney disease public policy.

**EDUCATE**
others on issues related to chronic kidney disease, organ donation and transplantation.

**COMMUNICATE**
the kidney community’s stories, questions and concerns by talking to healthcare stakeholders.

**ENGAGING**
stakeholders their community.

Apply to become an advocate:
https://www.kidney.org/advocacy/kidney-advocacy-committee