



# PRESS RELEASE

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## AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEPHROLOGY COMMENDS SENATE INTRODUCTION OF THE HONOR OUR LIVING DONORS

*Legislation would simplify the process for supporting living kidney donors*

**Washington, DC (December 17, 2024)** —The American Society of Nephrology (ASN) commends Senator John Boozman and Senator Ben Ray Luján for their introduction of the Honor Our Living Donors (HOLD) Act in the Senate.

“No living donor should face out of pocket costs for giving the gift of life,” said ASN President Deidra C. Crews, MD, ScM, FASN. “Senator Boozman and Senator Luján’s introduction of the HOLD Act significantly helps us advance that goal by simplifying the process by which living donors may receive support for costs associated with their kidney donation. Any barrier to living donation that can be removed will make a difference for the approximately 100,000 Americans awaiting a kidney transplant, and that is precisely what the HOLD Act accomplishes,” Dr. Crews added.

The HOLD Act changes a current statutory requirement that mandates consideration of the income of the organ recipient to determine whether a living donor should receive financial assistance. Among other things, the HOLD Act will require the Living Organ Donor Reimbursement Program, more commonly known as the National Living Donor Assistance Center, to consider only the donor’s income in determining eligibility for financial assistance.

More than 37,000,000 Americans live with kidney diseases, and a kidney transplant from a living donor is considered the optimal therapy for most people living with kidney failure. A living donor kidney transplant typically provides recipients superior quality of life and longevity– at a significant lower cost compared to dialysis.

“I am grateful for Senator Boozman and Senator Luján’s leadership on behalf of both living donors and hopeful kidney transplant candidates and I want to thank them for introducing this important legislation.” added Dr. Crews. “Supporting the advancement of the HOLD Act is a top ASN legislative priority, and the ASN leadership, staff, and more

than 21,000 members and I look forward to supporting efforts to move this important bill in the Senate.”

Senator Boozman and Senator Luján’s legislation joins parallel legislation in the House led by Representative Jay Obernolte and Representative Suzan DelBene that has enjoyed significant bipartisan support, including being unanimously passed by the Energy and Commerce Committee.

**About ASN**

*Since 1966, ASN has been leading the fight to prevent, treat, and cure kidney diseases throughout the world by educating health professionals and scientists, advancing research and innovation, communicating new knowledge and advocating for the highest quality care for patients. ASN has nearly 22,000 members representing 141 countries. For more information, visit [www.asn-online.org](http://www.asn-online.org) and follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#).*

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