



Saving and improving lives with transplantation.

American Society of Transplant Surgeons®

February 15, 2019

Senator Tom Cotton
124 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Jerrold Nadler
2132 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
478 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Jaime Herrera Beutler
2352 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Cotton and Gillibrand and Representatives Nadler and Herrera Beutler:

On behalf of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS), our members, and the patients we serve, thank you for introducing the “Living Donor Protection Act of 2019.” We greatly appreciate your efforts in advancing this bipartisan legislation which would remove certain barriers to life-saving transplantations by safeguarding the rights of organ donors.

ASTS serves approximately 1,800 surgeons, physicians, scientists, advanced transplant providers, and other transplant professionals dedicated to excellence in transplantation surgery. ASTS advocates for comprehensive and innovative solutions to meet the needs of our patients.

We are pleased to support the “Living Donor Protection Act of 2019.” The demand for transplantation continues to outpace the organ supply. The national list of individuals waiting for a transplant continues to grow with more than 113,000 patients on it — 22 of whom die each day. The “Living Donor Protection Act of 2019” will help address the disparity by protecting living organ donors from discrimination, maintaining their job security, and educating Americans on certain rights of organ donors.

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American Transplant Congress

June 1–5, 2019
Boston, Massachusetts

Thank you for your leadership in advancing this legislation. We applaud your efforts to address the growing demand for transplantation to save lives and enhance the quality of life for patients with end-stage organ failure. ASTS would be pleased to work with you to safeguard donors' rights and educate Americans regarding organ donation. If you have any questions, or if we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Nelson-Dowdy at 571-447-5447 or Jennifer.Nelson-Dowdy@asts.org or our Legislative Counsel, Peggy Tighe at 202-872-6752 or peggy.tighe@PowersLaw.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dixon Kaufman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dixon" and last name "Kaufman" clearly distinguishable.

Dixon B. Kaufman, MD, PhD
ASTS President