

April 26, 2024

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Chair, U.S. Subcommittee on Labor-HHS
Appropriations
United States Senate
141 Hart Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Member, U.S. Subcommittee on Labor-
HHS Appropriations
United States Senate
170 Russell Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair, U.S. Subcommittee on Labor-HHS
Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
266 Cannon House Office Building,
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member, U.S. Subcommittee on Labor-
HHS Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
2413 Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Baldwin and Ranking Member Capito, and Chair Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro:

Thank you for providing \$23 million in additional funding for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) modernization initiative for FY2024. We write to request the Subcommittee's continued support for the modernization initiative in FY2025.

It is important to fully fund the President's FY2025 budget request for the OPTN modernization initiative within the HRSA Health Care Systems Bureau. **The \$67 million budget request is necessary to properly implement the bipartisan *Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act (H.R. 2544)*, signed into law by the President in September 2023.** The landmark legislation is the first major reform of the system in over 40 years, and will improve the OPTN to better serve patients, families, caregivers, and providers.

As stakeholders in the national donation and transplantation community, we are fully committed to working with HRSA, Congress, and the wider donation and transplantation community to help more patients access the lifesaving transplants they need. More than 103,000 Americans are currently waiting for an organ transplant. Fully funding OPTN modernization will better the system and directly benefit donors, patients, and their families.

Thank you for your work to improve the nation's organ donation and transplant system.

Sincerely,

American Association of Kidney Patients (AAKP)

American Foundation for Donation & Transplantation (AFDT)
American Kidney Fund (AKF)
American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (ASHI)
American Society of Nephrology (ASN)
American Society of Transplantation (AST)
American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS)
Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO)
Donate Life America (DLA)
Donate Life Virginia
Kidney Care Partners (KCP)
Kidney Transplant Collaborative (KTC)
Nationwide Organ Recovery Transport Alliance (NORA)
North American Transplant Coordinators Organization (NATCO)
Organ Donation Advocacy Group (ODAG)
Renal Physicians Association (RPA)
Transplant Families
Transplant Recipients International Organization (TRIO)
United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS)
Waitlist Zero