

## “Honor Our Living Donors Act” Community Letter

For a living donor to be reimbursed for their donation-related expenses by NLDAC, the income of the organ recipient must be less than 350% of the federal government’s poverty level (which is currently roughly \$51,000 for an individual). If NLDAC lacks adequate funding, reimbursement is also prioritized for organ donors who fall under that income limit. The HOLD Act would make this income limit applicable only to the donor’s income, not the recipient’s.

The HOLD Act would also require NLDAC to submit an annual report to Congress that provides information about how much of the funds allocated to NLDAC each year were actually spent, the number of donors who were reimbursed, the number of donors who applied but were not reimbursed, and the total amount of funding that would be necessary to cover all qualifying expenses of all eligible donors.

More than 92,000 Americans are on a waiting list in the hope of receiving a kidney transplant. The number of living donations has always been low - around 6,000 per year - and has trended downward even as the demand for organs has increased. The expense for the donor is an important reason why so few people are donating. The HOLD Act would enable more potential living donors to be able to afford to donate.

The undersigned organizations strongly support the “Honor Our Living Donors Act” and urge its enactment into law.

