



NATIONAL KIDNEY
FOUNDATION®

SERVING COLORADO, NEW
MEXICO, MONTANA, AND
WYOMING

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Representative Kevin O'Hearn
P.O. Box 52
Mills, WY 82644

April 18, 2023

Dear Rep. O'Hearn,

On behalf of the National Kidney Foundation Serving Colorado, New Mexico, Montana, and Wyoming, and every kidney patient living in those states who is waiting for a transplant, I wanted to personally thank you for your leadership and tireless efforts to ensure that HB 0165, the Living Donor Protection Act (LDPA), is now law in the great state of Wyoming.

For every Wyoming resident waiting for an organ transplant, the living donor protections implemented by HB 0165 help increase the odds that those patients will receive the gift of life in the form of a new organ. As those who are on or who have been on the donation waitlist can tell you, nothing could be more meaningful.

In addition to saving lives, removing barriers to living donation and increasing patients' access to transplants will help the state save money. Costs associated with dialysis are generally four times those of the cost associated with care for a kidney transplant, and frequently those costs are covered by the government.

Wyoming's LDPA, the 29th version of this law passed by a state legislature, helps remove barriers to organ donation and directly leads to an expanded number of living donors statewide by prohibiting disability, life, and long-term care insurers from discriminating against living donors. By leading this effort in Wyoming, you are part of a nationwide movement to ensure every kidney patient that needs a transplant can get one.

Sincerely, and with profound gratitude,

Kendra Burrell

Executive Director, National Kidney Foundation Serving Colorado, New Mexico,
Montana, and Wyoming