



Northwest Kidney Council

NORTHWEST KIDNEY COUNCIL'S 2021 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Patient Centered Policies. Healthier Communities.

We're encouraging our elected representatives to come together in support of these key bills.

WASHINGTON

LIVING DONOR PROTECTION ACT

Protect vulnerable living organ donors from discrimination!

BILL NUMBER | SB 5003: Enacting the living donor act

SPONSOR | Sen. Karen Keiser

WHY IT MATTERS | Most organ donations come from deceased donors, but this is a last resort option caused by a lack of available living donors. The decision to become a living organ donor is not an easy one and the process comes with great risk and sacrifice. In Washington, living donors commonly experience insurance discrimination, which makes it difficult to change or obtain both health and life insurance. These factors reduce the likelihood a person will donate.

A lack of living donors means patients may wait years before receiving a transplant - time some people can't afford. On average, one person dies while waiting for a transplant every day in Washington. Living organ donation not only decreases the time individuals wait for a transplant, living organs also tend to survive longer, and transplant recipients experience fewer complications.

This bill provides protection to living donors from discriminatory practices by insurers, making it more likely people will feel safe donating an organ, and leading to better health outcomes for all.

OREGON

CKD TASK FORCE

Let's fight kidney disease through education and prevention!

BILL NUMBER | HB 2421: Establishes Oregon Kidney Disease Prevention and Education Task Force

SPONSOR(S) | Rep. Andrea Salinas and Rep. Moore Green

WHY IT MATTERS | In most cases, kidney disease can be prevented. And the first step to prevention is awareness and education.

About 37 million US adults are estimated to have CKD and most are undiagnosed. HB 2421 establishes the Oregon Kidney Disease Prevention and Education Task Force charged with developing a sustainable plan to raise awareness about early detection of kidney disease, promote health equity and reduce the burden of kidney disease statewide.

The task force will design an ongoing public information campaign about kidney disease that includes health education workshops and seminars, research, preventive screening and social media, television and radio advertising leading to healthier behaviors and early detection.

¹ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4194161/>

² <https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/data/view-data-reports/state-data/#>

³ <https://www.cdc.gov/kidneydisease/basics.html#about>



Northwest Kidney Council

Partnership for quality, safety and access to care

About the Northwest Kidney Council

The Northwest Kidney Council (NWKC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting access to care, safety and innovation for the kidney community in Oregon and Washington. We advocate for the voices of patients, health care professionals and researchers working to raise awareness and educate the public about kidney disease and its impacts to ensure policy decisions are patient-centered.

KIDNEY DISEASE IS ON THE RISE

In the United States an estimated 103 million adults, nearly half of all adults in the U.S., are living with hypertension. Similarly, reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention confirm that more than 100 million adults are battling diabetes or prediabetes. Both hypertension and diabetes are the two leading causes of end-stage renal disease (ESRD). Addressing the prevalence of ESRD in our community requires cross disciplinary collaboration, coordination and support.

NEARLY
8%
of Oregonians &
Washingtonians are
battling diabetes...

...AND OVER
25%
have been
diagnosed with
hypertension

IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS
ESRD cases are expected to increase
11%-18%

WHAT WE DO

At the NWKC we elevate voices in the kidney community to advocate for:



High quality, coordinated care



Adequate transportation for patients



Accessible and equitable
access to care for all patients



Research and innovation in
kidney care



Increased access to
organ transplants



Prevention and educational
programming in the community

NWKidneyCouncil.org

¹ More than 100 million Americans have high blood pressure, AHA says. (2018, January 21). Retrieved from <https://www.heart.org/en/news/2018/05/01/more-than-100-million-americans-have-high-blood-pressure-aha-says>

² New CDC report: More than 100 million Americans have diabetes or prediabetes. (2017, July 18). Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2017/p0718-diabetes-report.html>

³ Mccullough, K. P., Morgenstern, H., Saran, R., Herman, W. H., & Robinson, B. M. (2018). Projecting ESRD Incidence and Prevalence in the United States through 2030. *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, 30(1), 127-135. doi: 10.1681/asn.2018050531