



Colorado Living Organ Donor Support Act

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**Help make Colorado the first state where
nobody dies while waiting for a transplant**

PLEASE SUPPORT HB 1202

The “**Living Organ Donor Support Act**,” sponsored by **Rep. Alec Garnett** and **Sen. Bob Gardner** will be heard in the **House Finance Committee** on **Monday, February 26th** at **1:30 PM**. HB 1202 will remove some of the barriers for living organ donors and help them give the Gift of Life to those desparately in need.

Living donation is considered the best option for most kidney and liver transplant candidates. It is crucial that more Coloradans have access to it.

- In 2017, more Coloradans died or became too sick to remain on an organ donor waitlist than the number of Coloradans who died as a result of homicide.
- Right now, **nearly 2,400 Coloradans are on a waitlist** for a lifesaving organ transplant. Roughly 96% of these Coloradans could receive an organ from a living donor.
- **The ability to get paid time off** can be an enormous barrier for people who may otherwise consider becoming a living organ donor because of a very real fear of losing their income or their job.
- Last year, there were **160 living donors in the state of Colorado** but, currently, only Colorado state employees may take two days of paid leave specifically for organ donation.

HB 1202 assists living donors by encouraging employers of individuals considering donation to offer paid leave.

- The bill entitles employers to a **tax credit of 35%** of the employed living organ donor’s regular salary (up to 10 business days) and for the cost of temporary help during the leave of absence.
- The tax credit imposes a salary cap on the employee (\$80K annually) to ensure the barrier is removed for those most in need of support.
- The business community is at ease knowing the tax credit is **completely voluntary**.
- The bill will push the state forward in supporting living organ donors by helping them to make the decision to donate lifesaving organs without having to suffer significant financial hardships related to the donation process.
- Finally, the bill will help to raise awareness for and encourage both directed and non-directed living donation.

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