



May 13, 2021

Senator Bob Duff  
Senate Majority Leader  
Legislative Office Building  
Room 3300  
Hartford, CT 06106

Senator Kevin Kelly  
Senate Minority Leader  
300 Capitol Avenue  
Room 2803  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Leaders:

On behalf of the Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation, I write to share our strong support for HB 6387, the Living Donor Protection Act.

Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) is a chronic, genetic disease affecting over 600,000 Americans, including nearly 6,500 people in Connecticut. Asymptomatic until its advanced stages, PKD causes uncontrolled cysts to grow in the kidneys, often resulting in kidney failure. To date, there is no cure; dialysis and transplantation are the only treatment options.

HB 6387, the Living Donor Protection Act, will bring much-needed protections to Connecticut residents who choose to give the gift of organ donation. This bill will prevent insurance companies from unfairly raising premiums or canceling coverage for living donors. It also provides tax credits to help offset the costs associated with donation and recovery. Finally, HB 6387 will provide paid leave for state employees who serve as living organ donors.

Studies show that on average less than a third of kidney donations come from living donors. Because of the hereditary nature of PKD, family member living donation is often impossible. HB 6387 will undoubtedly help promote greater living organ donation by removing unnecessary barriers to donation and protecting donors as they recover.

On behalf of the PKD Foundation and our advocates across the country, we strongly urge you to report HB 6387 favorably out of Senate and support its further passage and enactment.

Thank you for your continued commitment to patients and donors.

Best regards,

**Andy Betts**  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
PKD Foundation