

Support the Bipartisan Organ Donation Referral Improvement Act (H.R.330)

Summary

The bipartisan legislation co-led by Reps. Rob Wittman (R-VA-01), Jennifer McClellan (D-VA-04), Jim Costa (D-CA-21), and Mariannette Miller-Meeks (R-IA-01) directs the HHS Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), to conduct a voluntary national study of automated electronic deceased organ donor referral tools to identify best practices and recommend steps for its broad adoption. Widespread use of automated electronic deceased organ donor referral could increase patient safety and reduce the number of Americans waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant. Recommendations are made on; 1) how to remove barriers to nationally implement and improve tools' performance; 2) identify costs of installing the system; 3) savings in staff time; 4) impact on organ donation volumes; 5) best practice; 6) and organ donor referral criteria that can be standardized across all automated electronic deceased organ donor referral technologies to promote its broader adoption.

Background

Automated electronic deceased organ donor referral tools are used by hospitals to refer to organ procurement organizations (OPOs) patients who may become deceased organ donors. The technology uses hospital electronic health records (EHR) systems to refer patients who are potential candidates for donation and send patient information to the collaborating OPO. Automated electronic deceased organ donor referral replaces the standard practice of manually notifying OPOs of potential deceased organ donors, lifting the burden of reporting off busy hospital staff, reducing the risk of human error, and ensuring every potential donor is referred.

This legislation is endorsed by 30 organizations:

American Kidney Fund	Infinite Legacy
American Kidney Patients	LifeBanc
American Liver Foundation	LifeCenter Northwest
American Nephrology Nurses Association	Life Connection of Ohio
American Society of Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics	LifeGift
American Society of Nephrology	LifeNet Health
American Society of Transplantation	Lifeline of Ohio
American Society of Transplant Surgeons	LifeQuest Organ Recovery Services
Association of Multicultural Affairs in Transplantation	Lifesharing Donate Life Organization
Association of Organ Procurement Organizations	National Kidney Foundation
Gift of Hope	New Jersey Sharing Network
Gift of Life Donor Program	North American Transplant Coordinators Association
HonorBridge	One Legacy
	Transplant Families
	United Network for Organ Sharing

Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association
Waitlist Zero