

Saving lives together

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unos.org

Maureen McBride, Ph.D. Executive Director & CEO

August 29, 2023

The Honorable Marco Rubio United States Senate 284 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kat Cammack States House of Representatives 2421 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Maggie Hassan United States Senate 324 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Debbie Dingell United United States House of Representatives 102 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

## VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dear Senators Rubio and Hassan and Representatives Cammack and Dingell:

The United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) applauds your leadership in introducing the Charlotte Woodward Organ Transplant Discrimination Prevention Act (S. 1183/H.R. 2706). This legislation advances our shared goal of ensuring equity for individuals with disabilities in our nation's organ donation and transplant system.

UNOS is the mission-driven non-profit serving as the nation's transplant system under contract with the federal government. We lead the network of transplant hospitals, organ procurement organizations, and thousands of volunteers who are dedicated to honoring the gifts of life entrusted to us and making lifesaving transplants possible for patients in need. Working together, we leverage data and advances in science and technology to continuously strengthen the system, increase the number of organs recovered and the number of transplants performed, and ensure patients across the nation have equitable access to transplant.

No individual, solely because of his or her disability, should be denied placement on the national waiting list as eligible for a transplant. At least 16 states have already enacted legislation prohibiting discrimination in transplantation against individuals with physical or intellectual disabilities. This legislation safeguards that all Americans, regardless of their disability, have equitable access to organ transplants.

Thank you again for your efforts to strengthen our nation's organ donation and transplant system for the benefit of all Americans.

Sincerely, Manun MBùde

Maureen McBride, Ph.D. Chief Executive Officer, United Network for Organ Sharing