

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS President Jennifer Payton

President-Elect Nancy Colobong Smith

Immediate Past President Angela Kurosaka

Secretary Kristin Larson

Treasurer Molly Cahill

Director Michelle Gilliland

Director Faith Lynch

Director Teresa Villaran

Emerging Professional Fellow Thomas De Leon

Executive Director Michele Kimball The Honorable Suzan DelBene U.S. House of Representatives 2330 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

October 12, 2023

The Honorable Jay Obernolte U.S. House of Representatives 1029 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives DelBene and Obernolte:

On behalf of the American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA), I would like to thank you for introducing the *Honor Our Living Donors (HOLD) Act*. ANNA appreciates your leadership on this important issue.

ANNA is a nonprofit organization with a membership of more than 6,000 registered nurses and other healthcare professional at all levels of practice. ANNA members work in settings such as chronic kidney disease management, peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis, continuous renal replacement therapy, transplantation, and government and regulatory agencies. ANNA believes that the demand for quality nephrology patient care will continue to grow in the future, especially with the many changes occurring within healthcare and, specifically, within the specialty of nephrology.

ANNA supports the *HOLD Act*, which would expand the eligibility of living donors able to receive reimbursement via the National Living Donor Assistance Center (NLDAC) for expenses associated with the donation of a lifesaving organ. Current law only allows a living organ donor to receive reimbursement by NLDAC if the incomes of both the organ donor and the organ recipient are less than 350% of the federal poverty line. The *HOLD Act* would make the income limit applicable only to the organ donor, not the organ recipient — eliminating a cost barrier for many otherwise noneligible donors.

ANNA is grateful for your leadership on this critical matter, and we stand ready to work with you and your colleagues to ensure the *HOLD Act* becomes law. If we can be of any assistance on this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me or ANNA's Washington Representative, Jim Twaddell (<u>jtwaddell@venable.com</u>). Again, we thank you for your leadership on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Payton

President