

# Insurance and Real Estate Committee HOUSE FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** HB-5255

AN ACT CONCERNING LIVING ORGAN DONOR INSURANCE

**Title:** DISCRIMINATION.

**Vote Date:** 3/10/2020

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 2/25/2020

**File No.:**

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## SPONSORS OF BILL:

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

## REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill will protect those who choose to be living donors from being discriminated against when purchasing insurance.

## RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

**Senator Martin Looney, President Pro Tempore-Connecticut General Assembly**-Support  
While health insurers cannot discriminate on the basis of a pre-existing condition, there is no such prohibition regarding life insurance, long-term care insurance, or disability income protection. Living organ donors are brave and generous people who should not suffer discrimination for their courageous choices

**Senator Derek Slap-Connecticut General Assembly**-Support ...as a national leader in insurance, we need to close the loop on this issue and enact comprehensive protections for living donors.

## NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

**Blackwell, Charlene**-Support – donor who was discriminated against

**Boice, Phillip**-Support – donor – concerned about future

**Bowen, Beverly**-Support – donor – concerned about future

**Brooks, Ned, Founder - CEO-Donor to Donor**-Support and Donor – also read testimony of donor who has been discriminated against.

**Candelora, Carolyn**-Support – donor concerned about future

**Capone, April, Manager-Yale New Haven Hospital**-Support – donor hoping to never be discriminated against

**Dowd, Mary**-Support – donor, not yet discriminated against but worried

**Egge, Brian**-Support – donor – specifically not discriminated against by insurance but worried for future

**Gilmartin, Robin** -Support – Donor – concerned that people could be discriminated against for insurance.

**Grant, Hilary**-Support – Donor – concerned that if Obamacare goes away so does insurance coverage

**Greenwood, Devon**-Support – Donor – concerned that should she ever lose her coverage she would have a "pre-existing condition" and be uninsurable

**Halter, Armand**-Support – Recipient – works with various kidney orgs

**Kaminski, Susan**-Support – Donor – concerned about future Ins. coverage

**Lee, Ryan**-Support- Donor – concerned might be discriminated against in future

**McCartin, Sarah**-Support – Donor and runs KidUNot org. was not able to be told in advance by her insurer is she would be covered because it was "elective"

**Menno-Coveney, Patricia**-Support – donor – concerned could be denied in future

**Nugent, Judith**-Support – Donor – concerned about future coverage

**Sadie**-Support – donor

**Sikes, Peter**-Support – donor concerned about future coverage

**Smith, Andrea**-Support – donor – has not been discriminated against but concerns about future

**Sokolski, Sheila**-Support – Donor – has not been discriminated against but knows people who have

**Zimmerman, Troy, Vice President-National Kidney Foundation**-Support – concerned that all donors should not be discriminated against as that could limit those who donate.

#### **NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

**Eric George, ACLI & IAC**-Oppose – suggests some changes that would bring it in line with what has been agreed upon by other states and the Kidney Assoc,

**Reported by: Dawn Marzik**

**Date: April 15,2020**