



ANNA's 2023 Health Policy Workshop "Ask Sheet"

The American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA) is a nonprofit organization with a membership of more than 6,000 registered nurses and other health care professionals at all levels of practice. ANNA members work in settings such as chronic kidney disease management, peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis, continuous renal replacement therapy, transplantation, industry, and government/regulatory agencies. During ANNA's 2023 Health Policy Workshop, participants learn to advocate on behalf of the nursing profession and the patients they care for daily. The participants will be visiting their Members of Congress to discuss a number of health policy issues and request support for the following legislation:

- **The Living Donor Protection Act of 2023 (H.R. 2923/S. 1384)** promotes organ donation and protects living donors. The legislation prohibits life, disability, and long-term care insurance companies from denying or limiting coverage and from charging higher premiums for living organ donors and amends the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to specifically include living organ donation as a serious health condition. In addition, the bill directs the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to update their materials on live organ donation to reflect these new protections and encourage more individuals to consider donating an organ. **ANNA encourages Members of Congress to cosponsor the Living Donor Protection Act of 2023 (H.R. 2923/S. 511)**
- **The Chronic Kidney Disease Improvement in Research and Treatment Act (H.R. 5027)** improves the research and development of new treatments for chronic kidney disease and kidney failure. The legislation adds chronic kidney disease and kidney failure to Medicare's annual wellness benefit, allowing Medicare beneficiaries to identify and slow the progression of these conditions. The bill requires the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to provide a long-term payment pathway for new kidney disease drugs, medical devices, and biologics. In addition, the bill aims to combat the nephrology health workforce crisis by including them in the National Health Service Corps loan forgiveness program. **ANNA encourages Members of Congress to cosponsor the Chronic Kidney Disease Improvement in Research and Treatment Act (H.R. 5027).**
- **The National Nursing Workforce Center Act of 2023 (H.R. 2411/S.1150)** helps stabilize and strengthen the nursing workforce, which is currently facing unprecedented staffing shortages. The legislation funds a 2-year pilot program through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to shore up state-based nursing workforce centers and expands HRSA's authority to establish a dedicated nursing research and technical assistance center. Additionally, the bill improves data collected and standardization to assess critical gaps in the nursing workforce and fosters collaboration between state and regional health workforce centers to identify and execute strategies to alleviate nursing shortages.