

**American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA)  
2024 Advocacy Forum  
Suggested Talking Points for Capitol Hill Meetings**

**Introductions**

- Introduce yourself and thank the staffer for their time. Explain that you would like to discuss several legislative issues of importance to the nephrology nursing profession.

**Provide Background on ANNA and the 2024 Advocacy Forum**

- The American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA) is a nonprofit organization with a membership of approximately 7,000 registered nurses and other healthcare professionals at all levels of practice.
- ANNA is hosting an Advocacy Forum where participants learn to advocate for the nursing profession and their patients. The participants are visiting Capitol Hill to discuss several important health policy issues and request support for the following issues:

**Discuss Legislative Requests**

- **Cosponsor the Living Donor Protection Act of 2023 (H.R. 2923 and S. 1384):** The bill 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. In addition, the bill directs the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to update its materials on live organ donations to reflect these new protections and encourage more individuals to consider donating an organ.
- **Cosponsor the Chronic Kidney Disease Improvement in Research and Treatment Act (H.R. 5027 and S.4469):** The bill 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 (CMMI) 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.
- **Support FY 2025 funding of at least \$530 million for the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs:** The programs help stabilize and strengthen the nursing workforce, which faces unprecedented staffing shortages. These programs address all aspects of the nursing workforce including education, recruitment of nurses, and retention.

**Closing**

- Thank the staffer for their time and ask when you can follow up about the issues you discussed.