



## Healthcare Organizations Support National Job Protection for Bone Marrow Donors

We urge you to support **THE LIFE SAVING LEAVE ACT (H.R. 3024/S. 3685)**, which allows bone marrow donors 40 nonconsecutive unpaid hours away from work to donate their cells to a matched patient awaiting transplant.

The undersigned organizations are stakeholders in bone marrow transplantation, which is the process of taking a healthy donor's cells and giving them to a patient with blood cancer or blood disease for a potential cure. Over 75 diseases can be cured or treated through a volunteer donor's bone marrow or blood stem cells. Because patients and donors must have similar genetics, many patients first look to their families for donation; however, 70% of patients who need a transplant do not have a fully matched donor in their family and must rely on a stranger to donate life-saving cells through the nation's bone marrow registry.

**We know firsthand that bone marrow transplant is often the only or last treatment option that doctors consider for a patient fighting blood cancer or blood disorders, so it is critical that members of the nation's bone marrow registry can answer the call to donate without fear of losing their job.**

Most patients facing one of these blood cancers and blood diseases only have one match on the nation's bone marrow registry, but job-related barriers to donation can prevent patients from receiving their best or only match. **THE LIFE SAVING LEAVE ACT (H.R. 3024/S. 3685)** will reduce job-related barriers that bone marrow and blood cell donors face by allowing for time away from work to save a life. One of the top-cited obstacles to saying "yes" to being a donor are job-related barriers.

Some states already have donor leave laws for employees in their state, but these leave laws vary state-by-state and are often not sufficient to ensure a patient gets the match they need. That is because only one in ten donors live in the same state as their patient. So even if a patient lives in a state with state-level job protections, their donor may reside in a state without those same protections and have more barriers to saying "Yes" when asked. A nationwide law ensures all patients have uniform and equal access to transplant regardless of where their donor lives or works.

**We believe that answering the call to save a life should not cost a bone marrow donor their job. The Life Saving Leave Act would directly eliminate the need to make that choice.**

American Society for Apheresis  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society for Transplantation and Cellular Therapy  
Association for the Advancement of Blood and Biotherapies  
Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist  
Avera Health McKennan Hospital & University Health Center  
Children's Wisconsin  
Colorado Blood Cancer Institute at  
Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy  
Fox Chase - Temple University Hospital  
HealthOnes Sarah Cannon Cancer Institute at Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center  
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center  
Hollings Cancer Center - Medical University of South Carolina  
International Society for Cell and Gene Therapy  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Mayo Clinic  
Medical University of South Carolina  
Mount Sinai Hospital  
National Marrow Donor Program  
New York Presbyterian - Weill Cornell Medicine

Northwestern Memorial Hospital  
Ochsner Medical Center  
Sarah Cannon at Mountain View Hospital  
Sarah Cannon at St. David's South Austin Medical Center  
Sarah Cannon Transplant and Cellular Therapy Program at Research Medical Center Kansas City  
Sarah Cannon Transplant and Cellular Therapy Program at TriStar Centennial Medical Center Nashville  
SSM Health – St. Louis University Hospital  
Stanford Health Care  
The Cleveland Clinic  
The Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas  
The Jewish Hospital - Mercy Health  
The University of Kansas Health System  
UMass Memorial Health – UMass Memorial Medical Center  
University of Alabama Birmingham Medicine  
University of Pennsylvania Medical Center  
University of Rochester Medical Center  
UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
World Marrow Donor Association