

# Vote Record

## Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and Government Operations

Date: 3-28-00  
 Moved by: DRZ      Seconded by: Arb  
 AB: 575      Clearinghouse Rule: \_\_\_\_\_  
 AB: \_\_\_\_\_      Appointment: \_\_\_\_\_  
 AJR: \_\_\_\_\_      SR: \_\_\_\_\_      Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 A: \_\_\_\_\_      SR: \_\_\_\_\_

A/S Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Sub Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Sub Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_  
 A/S Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_ to A/S Sub Amdt: \_\_\_\_\_

Be recommended for:

- Passage
- Introduction
- Adoption
- Rejection

- Indefinite Postponement
- Tabling
- Concurrence
- Nonconcurrence
- Confirmation

Committee Member

- Sen. Robert Wirch, Chair
- Sen. Gwendolynne Moore
- Sen. Richard Grobschmidt
- Sen. Gary Drzewiecki
- Sen. David Zien

Aye	No	Absent	Not Voting
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Totals: \_\_\_\_\_

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 3/28/00

BILL NO. AB 545  
OF

SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

Rep. Grewer  
(NAME)

3505-14th Ave  
(Street Address or Route Number)

Kenosha WI 53149  
(City and Zip Code)

for Rep. Grewer  
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:

Speaking Against:

Registering in Favor:   
but not speaking:

Registering Against:   
but not speaking:

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger **PROMPTLY**.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 3/28/00

BILL NO. AB 545  
OF

SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

PAUL VOLEK  
(NAME)

8531 234th Ave  
(Street Address or Route Number)

SALEM WI 53168  
(City and Zip Code)

for Rep. Grewer  
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:

Speaking Against:

Registering in Favor:   
but not speaking:

Registering Against:   
but not speaking:

Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger **PROMPTLY**.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 3/28/00  
BILL NO. AB 545  
OF \_\_\_\_\_  
SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

Sen. Day Anagnostis  
(NAME)  
419 W. Wright St  
(Street Address or Route Number)  
Polk, Ia. 54160-0313  
(City and Zip Code)  
30th State  
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:   
Speaking Against:   
Registering in Favor:   
but not speaking:  
Registering Against:   
but not speaking:  
Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

**SENATE HEARING SLIP**

(Please Print Plainly)

DATE: 3/28/00  
BILL NO. AB 545  
OF \_\_\_\_\_  
SUBJECT \_\_\_\_\_

KEVIN LEWIS  
(NAME)  
legislative liaison  
(Street Address or Route Number)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(City and Zip Code)  
DHFS  
(Representing)

Speaking in Favor:   
Speaking Against:   
Registering in Favor:   
but not speaking:  
Registering Against:   
but not speaking:  
Speaking for information only; Neither for nor against:

Please return this slip to a messenger PROMPTLY.

Senate Sergeant-At-Arms  
State Capitol - B35 South  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882



UNIVERSITY OF  
WISCONSIN-MADISON  
MEDICAL SCHOOL

March 20, 2000

This distribution has been  
authorized by

*Kremsier*  
Signature

To All Legislators:

This letter is to demonstrate unanimous and enthusiastic support by the UWMC Transplant Program for proposed legislation (AB545) which will provide additional paid leave for state employees who make a live donation of a solid organ or bone marrow for transplantation. This legislation models legislation already approved by Congress for Federal employees. We are sure that each of you is aware of the extreme organ shortage that currently exists in the United States. This shortage has been discussed often both at the Capitol and in the news media. The shortage is acute, with nearly 1,000 people awaiting transplantation at our program; less than half of them will be transplanted during the course of this year.

Many efforts have been made to increase organ donation. Among those efforts has been a renewed emphasis over the past four or five years on live kidney donation as well as live liver donation. Live organ donation alleviates the organ shortage, provides organ transplants for many needy recipients, and often results in improved long-term outcome.

People volunteer to become organ donors. They choose to undergo a major operation in order to provide a transplantable organ for a relative or friend. This is a heroic and selfless act on their part which they receive nothing other than the reward of seeing the recipient benefit from their donation. Many of these donors sacrifice much: lost income, lost time, as well as much anxiety and sometimes considerable discomfort. Every effort should be made to reduce disincentives to a live organ donation.

Therefore, we wholeheartedly and strongly support the legislation that would provide benefits to a small number of State employees who may have an opportunity to be a live organ donor. In the large picture, the expense of providing the few extra days of leave cannot be great; certainly not great compared to the benefit the transplanted organ may provide to those who suffer from terminal organ failure. This legislation has a tremendous benefit with minimal cost. We earnestly urge all of you to support this legislation.

Hans W. Springer, M.D., Ph.D.  
Folkert O. Belzer Professor of Surgery  
Chair, Division of Organ Transplantation

Anthony M. D'Alessandro, M.D.  
Associate Professor of Surgery  
Director, Multiorgan Transplantation

Michael J. Armbrust, R.N.  
Transplant Coordinator

HWS/AMD/MJA:kh

Transplant Service

H4/785 Clinical Science Center, 800 Highland Avenue, Madison, WI 53792-7375  
Telephone 608/263-1385 Fax 608/262-5624 Appointments 608/263-9531



March 20, 2000

Members, Wisconsin Assembly

On behalf of the Wisconsin Donor Network, I am writing to request your support of AB545, authorizing paid leave for state employees who serve as organ and bone marrow donors.

In spite of the best efforts of this Legislature and others committed to supporting organ donation, we have not been able to keep up with the increase in patients being added to Wisconsin's transplant waiting lists. During 1999, over 150 kidney transplant patients were added to the waiting list in Eastern Wisconsin; a number well in excess of the maximum number of kidneys which could have been donated under the most ideal circumstances. It is imperative that we support living donation as one means to reduce our waiting list.

Living organ and bone marrow donors are truly heroes. They have chosen to set aside concern over personal risk, inconvenience and pain to donate an organ or bone marrow to a family member, friend, or anonymous recipient. Unfortunately, in many cases they are faced with the significant burden of lost wages during the four to six weeks before they can return to work. For many, this is an insurmountable barrier and they choose not to donate. AB545 removes this barrier for state employees and recognizes the tremendous value of their contribution to our community. Even though the number of individuals affected may be small, facilitating a single living donation has the two-fold effect of offering transplantation under the best of circumstances and removing a patient from the waiting list – thereby giving someone else an opportunity to receive an organ.

As you consider your support of this Bill, please also consider the hundreds of patients in our community who are waiting for their opportunity to receive this life-saving gift.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Volek  
Director

# FROEDTERT

Memorial Lutheran Hospital

William D. Petasnick  
President and Chief Executive Officer

9200 W. Wisconsin Avenue  
P.O. Box 26099  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226-3596  
Telephone 414/805-2606  
FAX 414/805-7790

February 3, 2000

Rep. Cloyd A. Porter  
State Capitol – Room 309 North  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8953

RE: AB 545 – Living Organ Donor Bill

Dear Representative Porter:

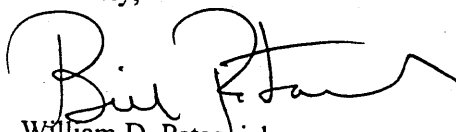
It is well known that we are confronting a serious shortage of organs for transplantation in Wisconsin. Although our rate of organ donation is better than most areas of the country, we are still adding patients to transplant waiting lists faster than we can transplant them. Today there are over 1500 patients on the waiting list in our State – with over 600 patients residing in Southeastern Wisconsin. Fortunately, we can remove some patients from this list by encouraging their family members to consider living organ donation.

Living organ donation is a significant undertaking and involves the removal of an organ from a healthy individual for transplantation into a family member or friend. These living donors are true heroes. Unfortunately, some find themselves unable to donate because of the loss of wages associated with a 4 – 6 week convalescence. AB 545 seeks to alleviate this barrier to donation for Wisconsin State employees. By creating a special category of paid leave, individuals can donate without jeopardizing either their financial well being or exhausting their sick leave benefit.

Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital strongly supports this Bill. As the transplant center serving Southeastern Wisconsin, our program has offered transplantation to over 2400 patients. With 400 patients currently waiting for kidney transplants at Froedtert, we want to offer living donation to as many patients as possible. Although AB 545 addresses State employees, it provides a clear precedent and example for other employer groups, and continues to demonstrate Wisconsin's leadership in this field of medicine.

We appreciate your support and offer our thanks on behalf of our waiting transplant patients.

Sincerely,



William D. Petasnick  
President and CEO

# **NK** National Kidney Foundation Of Wisconsin

280 REGENCY COURT, SUITE 100 • BROOKFIELD, WI 53045-6165 • (414) 821-0705 • (800) 543-6393 • FAX (414) 821-5641

December 15, 1999

Today, you will hear numbers, statistics, conjectures, opinions and stories. But more importantly, today you will meet people who will express important themes that have made Wisconsin a leader in the nation....quality of life, concern for community, excellence in medical and health care and support for equity for all citizens.

As you listen to the testimony, especially the stories of people who have been or could be directly affected by living donation, I ask you to remember the faces and imagine the families and friends who are not able to be here today, but who are also affected.

Over the course of the last twelve months alone, over 1300 people in our state will receive the news that they have End Stage Renal (kidney) Disease. Their options for treatment include dialysis or transplantation. For those who choose transplantation, again there are potential options-- a kidney from a cadaveric donor or a living donor.

Patients who undergo transplantation usually regain a 'new lease' on life. Over time, the cost to keep a patient with End Stage Renal Disease alive decreases therefore freeing up medical resources for other patients. Living donation, as you will learn in your deliberations, is an option that has been on the increase in our state and the nation. Through living donations, mothers, brothers, relatives, friends or even co-workers are able to express their love or friendship for people they care about through their contribution.

There are no easy answers to reducing the number of people on the waiting lists for transplants here in our state or the nation. I am grateful to live in a state that has three of the finest transplant centers and two of the best organ procurement organization in the country. The efforts of the staff of institutions makes Wisconsin a leader...a benchmark for other states. This legislation would only enhance that reputation. But most importantly, it educates our citizens about the importance of organ donation and creates an opportunity for dialogue among families and communities throughout our state.

I would encourage your support and endorsement this bill.

Submitted by: Cynthia A. Huber, Executive Director  
National Kidney Foundation of Wisconsin

*the mission of the National Kidney Foundation*

*to prevent, educate, and cure kidney tract diseases,*

*improve the health and well-being of individuals and families*

*affected by these diseases*

*and*

*increase the availability of all organs for transplantation.*



Memorial Lutheran Hospital

**STATE OF WISCONSIN  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING AND  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
MADISON, WISCONSIN**

**MARCH 27, 2000**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY BILL 545, AUTHORIZING PAID LEAVE FOR  
STATE EMPLOYEES WHO SERVE AS ORGAN AND BONE MARROW DONORS**

I am Paul J. Volek, Transplant Administrator at Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. As the administrator of a large multi-organ and bone marrow transplant center, it is my privilege to speak in support of Assembly Bill 545.

It is well known to all of us that we are confronting a serious shortage of organs for transplantation in Wisconsin. Although our rate of organ donation is better than most areas of the country, we are still adding patients to transplant waiting lists faster than we can transplant them off the list. As a result more patients are waiting, waiting for a longer time, and may be sicker at the time an organ becomes available. In about one-third of kidney transplants, the patient is fortunate enough to have a family member, spouse, or friend who is both medically suitable and willing to donate an organ for transplant. For these patients, transplantation can be scheduled at a time when they are at their best and they are spared the uncertainty of the waiting list. In addition, living donation permits better matching of the donor and recipient and results in a much-improved clinical outcome – as much as 30% better five years after transplant versus the recipient who received an organ from a deceased donor. For these reasons, we explore the option of living donation with every potential kidney transplant recipient.

As living donors are healthy individuals who are usually working, the impact of organ donation on their employment is one of the most frequently expressed concerns. Although donor medical expenses are usually paid by the recipient's health plan, there is no provision to compensate the donor for loss of pay or other non-medical, out-of-pocket expenses. For many potential donors, particularly those paid on an hourly basis, this can be a significant barrier to donation.

Assembly Bill 545 seeks to eliminate this concern for State of Wisconsin employees. Even though the number of individuals affected may be small, facilitating a single living donation has the two-fold effect of offering transplantation under the best of circumstances and removing a patient from the waiting list – thereby giving someone else an opportunity to receive an organ.

This same scenario is played out to a lesser degree in bone marrow transplantation. As a collection site for the National Marrow Donor Program, we arrange for the collection of marrow and blood products from potential donors who may reside in Wisconsin. Although time away from the job is considerably less, it again may have an impact on the wages paid. In the case of bone marrow donation, the most acute shortage of marrow donors is in the minority populations. Unfortunately, this is the segment of our population facing the greatest difficulty in obtaining time off and accommodating any additional out-of-pocket expenses. Relief, at least for State employees, may result in an increase in the willingness to donate.

We appreciate that this legislation only affects State employees. It does, however, send a message to other employers that, with a relatively minimal risk, they can contribute to the welfare of patients in our community. And for those employers who are supporting the health care costs of patients on transplant waiting lists, they will certainly benefit from this legislation.

We encourage the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and Government Operations to support this Bill. Thank you for your consideration.