

AIDS Foundation

OF CHICAGO

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Support HB 3857

Allowing Organ Donation for People with HIV/AIDS

HB 3857 (McKeon, Miller, Sacia, Howard, Ryg, Flowers) allows an HIV-positive person to donate an organ to another HIV-positive person, increasing organ transplant opportunities for people with HIV/AIDS who need them. Illinois law currently prohibits organ donations from persons living with HIV/AIDS.

HB 3857 will improve our ability to effectively treat people living with HIV/AIDS.

- The bill will afford people living with HIV more options for managing their health by increasing the number of organs available to them for transplant.
- As people with HIV/AIDS live longer, some people are requiring organ transplants to address liver failure associated with hepatitis C infection or organ failure that results from any number of other conditions—diabetes, lung cancer, etc.
- Hepatitis C is the leading cause of liver failure in the United States, and as the number of people co-infected with HIV and hepatitis C grows, the need for liver transplants will grow as well.

HB 3857 maintains provisions to prevent HIV transmission through organ transplants.

- The bill bans the transplant of organs from HIV-positive donors to HIV-negative recipients in order to prevent HIV transmission.
- Protocols are already in place to protect HIV-negative patients from receiving transplanted organs from HIV-positive donors.

For more information, please contact Karen A. Reitan at 312-922-2322 or kreitan@aidschicago.org.