Living Donation Tax Credit

S.B. 68 makes sense for Illinois

Cost of Care: Dialysis

$93,064 per patient/per year
- Medicare covers 80% ($74,451)
- Medicaid covers 20% ($18,613)
  The state covers 1/2 of Medicaid.
  Per patient, per year, that's:
  $9,306 paid by Illinois
  or more than $2 billion total

Only 2% of all registered organ donors die in a manner that allows whole organ donation. Living donation is the answer.

21,641 dialysis patients in Illinois*

Cost of Care: Transplant

$36,389 per patient/per year
- Medicare covers 80% ($29,111)
- Medicaid covers 20% ($7,278)
  The state covers 1/2 Medicaid.
  Per patient, per year, that's:
  $3,639 paid by Illinois

If Illinois were to double the number of living donors per year, the state would save $2,810,832 annually.

*These statistics have remained stagnant since 2002

Kidney Transplants

474 deceased donors
248 living donors*

In Illinois in 2018

*As of 12/14/18

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Costs & Benefits of S.B. 68

S.B. 68 proposes that Illinois create a tax credit that encourages businesses to give private-sector employees the same benefits granted to state employees through the existing Organ Donor Leave Act (30 days paid leave for bone marrow or whole organ living donors). These companies would be eligible for a tax credit of up to 25% of wages or salary. The tax credit would only apply if an employee followed through on a living donation.

The Figures

- In 2018, there were 248 living donors in Illinois. It is unknown how many of those donors were private-sector employees. For these purposes, we shall assume all were private-sector.
- The average household income (not individual) in Illinois is $60,960. For the sake of maximization of potential cost of this plan, we shall use the $60,960 figure.
- Distributed over 260 working days in 2018, that comes to $234.46 per working day. The 25 percent tax credit S.B. 2563 would allow – the state’s potential maximum average liability per person – comes to $58.62 per working day, or $1,758.60 per living donor, assuming every living donor takes all 30 days available.
- That means, had every living donor in 2018 made equal to the average household income in Illinois, and had every living donor worked for a private-sector company that offered donor leave under the new policy, and had every living donor taken the full 30 days available, the total cost to the state in 2018 would have been $436,132.80.

If the number of living donors were to double thanks to the incentive offered by S.B. 2563, the legislation will have paid for itself in fewer than two months.

In all likelihood, the above is an overestimation of the amount it would actually cost – not all living donors are private-sector employees; not all living donors make equal to (or even close to) the average household income in Illinois; and not every company will offer the 30 days paid leave, despite the passage of tax-credit legislation.