

1 HJR157
2 125318-1
3 By Representative Wren
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 22-MAR-11

8 CREATING THE CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE TASK FORCE.
9

10 WHEREAS, chronic kidney disease (CKD) is a growing
11 health problem in the United States; a recent report by the
12 Centers for Disease Control determined that 16.8 percent of
13 all adults above the age of 20 years have CKD; and

14 WHEREAS, one in six individuals have kidney disease,
15 with over 400,000 patients on dialysis or receiving kidney
16 transplants, and 67,000 people die each year because of kidney
17 failure; and

18 WHEREAS, CKD is more prevalent among individuals
19 above 60 years of age and among Hispanic, African-American,
20 Asian or Pacific Islander, and Native American people; and

21 WHEREAS, the National Kidney Foundation of Alabama,
22 the Alabama Kidney Foundation, and the American Kidney Fund
23 encourage efforts to educate Americans, particularly those in
24 high-risk communities, about CKD and to provide strategies for
25 preventing or slowing the progression of the disease; and

26 WHEREAS, appropriate government agencies as well as
27 private entities would be able to allocate resources to

1 reducing the human toll and economic burden of CKD; now
2 therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Chronic Kidney Disease
5 Task Force is hereby created.

6 (a) The task force shall consist of the following
7 members:

8 (1) Two members of the Alabama House of
9 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of
10 Representatives.

11 (2) Two members of the Alabama Senate appointed by
12 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

13 (3) The State Health Officer, or his or her
14 designee.

15 (4) Two practicing nephrologists appointed by the
16 Lieutenant Governor.

17 (5) Two practicing nephrologists appointed by the
18 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

19 (6) Three members appointed by the Alabama Kidney
20 Foundation.

21 (7) The Director of the Alabama Department of Senior
22 Services, or his or her designee.

23 (8) The Commissioner of the Alabama Department of
24 Human Resources, or his or her designee.

25 (9) Two members who are representatives of
26 nephrology patient advocacy groups appointed by the Governor.

(10) Three members appointed by the Alabama Council of Nephrology Social Workers.

(11) Three members appointed by the American Nephrology Nurses Association.

(b) Members shall serve without compensation. The membership of the task force shall be inclusive and reflect the racial, gender, geographic, urban/rural, and economic diversity of the state.

(c) The task force shall assess the current and future impact of CKD on residents of Alabama, shall examine the existing industries, services, and resources addressing the needs of persons with CKD and their families and caregivers, and shall develop a strategy to help mobilize a state response to CKD.

(d) The task force shall include an examination of the following in its assessment and recommendations:

(1) Trends in state CKD population and needs, including the changing population with CKD and other complications associated with getting treatment for CKD including, but not limited to, Medicaid eligibility and transportation needs for CKD patients.

(2) The state role in long-term care, family caregiver support, and assistance to persons with CKD and its complications.

(3) State policy regarding the effective treatment and prevention of CKD.

(e) No action of the task force shall be construed as authorizing or allowing the establishment of any medical rule, regulation, policy, protocol, regimen, practice, or medical standard of care.

(f) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall set the date of the first meeting of the task force, at which the members of the task force shall elect a chair and a vice chair. Thereafter, the task force shall meet at the call of the chair or at the call of a majority of the members thereof.

(g) The task force shall hold public meetings and utilize technological means, such as web casts, to gather feedback on recommendations from the general public and from persons and families affected by CKD.

(h) The CKD Task Force shall regularly update the members of the Alabama Congressional Delegation and shall solicit their participation in addressing the significant health care and transportation needs of Alabama citizens with CKD.

(i) The chair of the task force shall create and appoint members to not more than three advisory sub-task forces, which shall include members of the task force, representatives from governmental agencies, and members of the public with interest and expertise in the objectives of the task force. Each advisory sub-task force shall be cochaired by a member of the task force and a nonlegislative task force member elected by the members of the sub-task force.

(j) The task force shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature in the form of a State CKD Plan no later than the end of the quadrennium in which the task force was created at which time the task force shall stand dissolved.

(k) Each legislative member of the task force and each legislative member of any advisory sub-task force shall be entitled to his or her regular legislative compensation, his or her per diem, and travel expenses for each day he or she attends a meeting of the task force or a sub-task force, which shall be paid out of any funds appropriated for the use of the Legislature, upon warrants drawn by the Comptroller, upon requisitions signed by the task force chair. Legislative members may not receive additional legislative compensation or per diem for a regular or special session meeting day or committee meeting day of any special or regular session, or if a member is being paid any other payments on the same dates for attendance on other state business. Nonlegislative members of the task force and advisory sub-task forces may be reimbursed for meetings according to the policies and procedures of the respective agencies and groups represented.

(1) The annual expenses of the task force may not exceed \$10,000.