

1 HJR55
2 136300-1
3 By Representative Wren
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 08-FEB-12

CREATING THE CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE TASK FORCE.

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

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

WHEREAS, chronic kidney disease is more prevalent among individuals above 60 years of age, and among Hispanic, African-American, Asian or Pacific Islander, and Native American people; and

WHEREAS, the National Kidney Foundation of Alabama, the Alabama Kidney Foundation, and the American Kidney Fund encourage efforts to educate Americans, particularly those in high-risk communities, about chronic kidney disease (CKD) and to provide strategies for preventing or slowing the progression of the disease; and

1 WHEREAS, appropriate government agencies as well as
2 private entities would be able to allocate resources to
3 reducing the human toll and economic burden of chronic kidney
4 disease; now therefore,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
6 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Chronic Kidney Disease
7 Task Force is hereby created. The task force shall consist of
8 the following members:

9 (1) Two members of the Alabama Senate appointed by
10 the Lieutenant Governor.

11 (2) Two members of the Alabama House of
12 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House.

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) Two 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 selected by the Governor.

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

3 (11) Two members appointed by the American
4 Nephrology Nurses Association.

5 Members shall serve without compensation. The
6 membership of the task force shall be inclusive and reflect
7 the racial, gender, geographic, urban/rural, and economic
8 diversity of the state. The sponsor of this resolution shall
9 call the first meeting of the task force at which the members
10 shall elect a chair and vice-chair.

11 The task force shall assess the current and future
12 impact of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) on residents of
13 Alabama, shall examine the existing industries, services, and
14 resources addressing the needs of persons with CKD and their
15 families and caregivers, and shall develop a strategy to help
16 mobilize a state response to the CKD.

17 The task force shall include an examination of the
18 following in its assessment and recommendations:

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

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

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

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

7 The CKD Task Force shall regularly update the
8 members of Alabama's Congressional Delegation and shall
9 solicit their participation in addressing the significant
10 health care and transportation needs of Alabama citizens with
11 Chronic Kidney Disease.

12 The chair of the task force shall create and appoint
13 members to not more than three advisory sub-task forces, which
14 shall include members of the task force, representatives from
15 governmental agencies, and members of the public with interest
16 and expertise in the objectives of the task force. Each
17 advisory sub-task force shall be cochaired by a member of the
18 task force and a non-legislative task force member elected by
19 the members of the sub-task force.

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

25 Each legislative member of the task force and each
26 legislative member of any advisory sub-task force shall be
27 entitled to his or her regular legislative compensation, his

1 or her per diem, and travel expenses for each day he or she
2 attends a meeting of the task force or a sub-task force, which
3 shall be paid out of any funds appropriated for the use of the
4 Legislature, upon warrants drawn by the state Comptroller,
5 upon requisitions signed by the task force chair; provided,
6 however, legislative members shall not receive additional
7 legislative compensation or per diem for a regular or special
8 session meeting day or committee meeting day of any special or
9 regular session, or if a member is being paid any other
10 payments on the same dates for attendance on other state
11 business. Non-legislative members of the task force and
12 advisory sub-task forces may be reimbursed for meetings
13 according to the policies and procedures of the respective
14 agencies and groups represented.

15 The annual expenses of the task force shall not
16 exceed \$5,000.