

HJR8 ENROLLED



1 SBIW87-2
2 By Representative Rogers
3 RFD: RULES
4 First Read: 07-Mar-23
5
6 2023 Regular Session



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

2

3 HJR____ TO RECOGNIZE MARCH 2023 AS "CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE
4 AWARENESS MONTH" IN ALABAMA IN ORDER TO RAISE AWARENESS FOR
5 THE NEED FOR RESEARCH, SCREENING PROGRAMS, AND ACCESS TO
6 CARE FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO SUFFER FROM CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE.

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8 WHEREAS, March is recognized as National Kidney
9 Month, which makes this month an important time for raising
10 public awareness and understanding about chronic kidney and
11 rare kidney diseases; and

12 WHEREAS, more than one in seven, fifteen percent of
13 adults in the United States , are estimated to have chronic
14 kidney disease (CKD), and as many as nine in ten adults with
15 CKD do not know they have CKD; and

16 WHEREAS, kidney disease disproportionately affects
17 communities of color; African Americans are almost four
18 times more likely, and Hispanics are 1.3 times more likely
19 to have kidney failure compared to White Americans; and

20 WHEREAS, ninety percent of patients with CKD stages
21 1-3 are undiagnosed, and less than three percent of Black
22 patients believe that they are at high risk for CKD; and

23 WHEREAS, CKD, when diagnosed, is often in late stages
24 of the disease and irreversible damage to the kidneys has
25 already occurred; fifteen percent of people diagnosed with
26 CKD are unaware of the cause of their disease; and

27 WHEREAS, recent scientific advancements have shown
28 that some of the health disparities in CKD have a genetic



HJR8 Enrolled

29 basis; this genetic risk factor for CKD was discovered in
30 2010, when scientists learned that people who inherit two
31 variants of the Apolipoprotein L1 (APOL1) gene are at
32 significantly increased risk of developing kidney disease;
33 while everyone has the APOL1 gene, only people with African
34 ancestry inherit certain genetic variants; and

35 WHEREAS, thirteen percent of African Americans carry
36 two APOL1 risk variants, and estimates suggest that up to
37 one in five people with two APOL1 risk variants will develop
38 kidney disease; APOL1 mediated kidney disease causes high
39 levels of protein in the urine, or proteinuria, and can lead
40 to various symptoms, including swelling in the legs and
41 feet, fatigue, and weight gain; and

42 WHEREAS, research has also shown that the course of
43 kidney disease is more rapidly progressive in individuals
44 with two APOL1 risk variants than in patients without them;
45 and

46 WHEREAS, the disease may eventually lead to kidney
47 failure, requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant; and

48 WHEREAS, there are simple tests to diagnose chronic
49 kidney disease, including blood and urine tests, and a
50 genetic test exists to identify presence of APOL1 risk
51 variants; and

52 WHEREAS, it is imperative to improve awareness,
53 diagnosis, and treatment of CKD through community-based
54 programs that address racial disparities in the awareness,
55 diagnosis, and treatment of chronic kidney disease; now
56 therefore,

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57 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
58 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That March 2023 shall be
59 recognized as "Chronic Kidney Disease Awareness Month" in
60 Alabama in order to raise awareness for the need for
61 research, screening programs, and access to care for
62 individuals who are at risk of or suffer from chronic kidney
63 disease.



HJR8 Enrolled

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67 Speaker of the House of Representatives

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72 President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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75 House of Representatives

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I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was passed by the House 23-MAR-23.

80 John Treadwell
81 Clerk

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89 Senate 03-May-23 Adopted