

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.

7
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



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basis; this genetic risk factor for CKD was discovered in 2010, when scientists learned that people who inherit two variants of the Apolipoprotein L1 (APO1) gene are at significantly increased risk of developing kidney disease; while everyone has the APO1 gene, only people with African ancestry inherit certain genetic variants; and

WHEREAS, thirteen percent of African Americans carry two APO1 risk variants, and estimates suggest that up to one in five people with two APO1 risk variants will develop kidney disease; APO1 mediated kidney disease causes high levels of protein in the urine, or proteinuria, and can lead to various symptoms, including swelling in the legs and feet, fatigue, and weight gain; and

WHEREAS, research has also shown that the course of kidney disease is more rapidly progressive in individuals with two APO1 risk variants than in patients without them; and

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

WHEREAS, there are simple tests to diagnose chronic kidney disease, including blood and urine tests, and a genetic test exists to identify presence of APO1 risk variants; and

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



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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

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

John Treadwell
Clerk

Senate 03-May-23 Adopted