

By Senator Wilson

33-00211-08

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing March 13, 2008, as "Chronic Kidney Disease Awareness Day."

WHEREAS, healthy kidneys are essential to regulate the body by water and other chemicals in your blood, remove fluids, waste, toxins, and drugs introduced to the body, release hormones that regulate blood pressure, make red blood cells, and promote strong bones, and

WHEREAS, more than 1.8 million Floridians, about one in nine adults, suffer from chronic kidney disease, and

WHEREAS, of the 19,000 Floridians afflicted with end-stage renal disease, approximately 40 percent are African-American and 16 percent are Hispanic, and

WHEREAS, the two main causes of chronic kidney disease are diabetes and high blood pressure, which are responsible for up to two-thirds of the cases, and

WHEREAS, the National Kidney Foundation of Florida has a health-screening program to identify people early for kidney disease, and

WHEREAS, the mission of the National Kidney Foundation of Florida is to prevent kidney and urinary tract diseases, improve the health and well-being of individuals and families affected by these diseases, and increase the availability of all organs for transplantation, and

WHEREAS, early detection including regular reporting of the glomerular filtration rate, currently the best indication of kidney disease staging, can help prevent the progression of kidney disease to kidney failure, which requires continual

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30 dialysis or a kidney transplant in order to maintain life, and
31 WHEREAS, the cost of treatment for kidney disease patients
32 is disproportionately higher than that for any other chronic
33 disease, and

34 WHEREAS, most patients who have end-stage renal disease rely
35 primarily on Medicare and Medicaid to cover the costs of their
36 life-sustaining care, which includes dialysis treatment,
37 medications, laboratory testing, and, as necessary,
38 transportation services to the dialysis facility, and, as a
39 consequence, any changes in Medicare and Medicaid eligibility,
40 will significantly put them at risk, NOW, THEREFORE,

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42 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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44 That March 13, 2008, is recognized as "Chronic Kidney
45 Disease Awareness Day" in Florida in the hope that all possible
46 support will be extended to chronic kidney disease patients in
47 Florida, including expanding the scope of study at the Agency for
48 Health Care Administration to include a study of early screening,
49 diagnosis, and treatment of chronic kidney disease.