

By Senator Wilson

33-00056-09

2009102__

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing March 12, 2009, as "Chronic
Kidney Disease Awareness Day."

WHEREAS, healthy kidneys are essential for regulating water
and other chemicals in human blood; removing fluids, waste,
toxins, and drugs introduced into the body; releasing hormones
that regulate blood pressure; making red blood cells; and
promoting strong bones, and

WHEREAS, more than 1.8 million Floridians, approximately
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 who are at
risk of having 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

33-00056-09

2009102__

30 dialysis or a kidney transplant in order to maintain life, and

31 WHEREAS, the cost of treating patients who have kidney
32 disease is disproportionately higher than the cost of treating
33 any other chronic disease, and

34 WHEREAS, most patients who have end-stage renal disease
35 rely primarily on Medicare and Medicaid to cover the costs of
36 their 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 those patients at risk, NOW, THEREFORE,

41

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

43

44 That March 12, 2009, 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
48 for Health Care Administration to include a study of early
49 screening, diagnosis, and treatment of chronic kidney disease.