

By Senator Powell

24-03378-23

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing March 2023 as "Chronic Kidney Disease Awareness Month" in Florida and acknowledging the importance of improving the diagnosis and treatment of chronic kidney disease through community-based programs that address racial disparities in the awareness, diagnosis, and treatment of the disease.

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

WHEREAS, more than 1 in 7 adults in the United States – nearly 37 million people – are estimated to have chronic kidney disease (CKD), and it is believed that as many as 9 in 10 adults with CKD are undiagnosed, and

WHEREAS, 90 percent of patients with CKD stages 1-3 are undiagnosed, and less than 3 percent of African American patients believe that they are at high risk for CKD, and

WHEREAS, kidney disease disproportionately affects communities of color, with African Americans nearly 4 times more likely and Hispanics 1.3 times more likely to experience kidney failure than white Americans, and

WHEREAS, CKD is often diagnosed in the late stages of the disease when irreversible damage to the kidneys has already occurred, and

WHEREAS, 15 percent of people diagnosed with CKD are unaware of the cause of their disease, and

WHEREAS, recent scientific advancements have shown that

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30 some of the disparities in the occurrence of CKD have a genetic  
31 basis, and

32 WHEREAS, this genetic risk factor for CKD was discovered in  
33 2010 when scientists learned that people who inherit two  
34 variants of the apolipoprotein L1 (APO11) gene are at  
35 significantly increased risk of developing kidney disease, and

36 WHEREAS, while everyone has the APO11 gene, only people  
37 with African ancestry inherit certain genetic variants, and

38 WHEREAS, 13 percent of African Americans carry two APO11  
39 risk variants, and estimates suggest that up to 1 in 5 people  
40 with two APO11 risk variants will develop kidney disease, and

41 WHEREAS, APO11-mediated kidney disease causes high levels  
42 of protein in the urine, or proteinuria, and decreased kidney  
43 function which can lead to various symptoms, including swelling  
44 in the legs and feet, fatigue, and weight gain, and

45 WHEREAS, research has also shown that the course of kidney  
46 disease progresses more rapidly in individuals with two APO11  
47 risk variants than in patients without them, and

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

50 WHEREAS, there are simple tests to diagnose CKD, including  
51 blood and urine tests, and a genetic test exists to identify the  
52 presence of APO11 risk variants, and

53 WHEREAS, it is imperative that this state improve the  
54 diagnosis and treatment of CKD through community-based programs  
55 that address racial disparities in the awareness, diagnosis, and  
56 treatment of CKD, NOW, THEREFORE,

57  
58 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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60 That March 2023 is recognized as "Chronic Kidney Disease  
61 Awareness Month" in Florida and the importance of improving the  
62 diagnosis and treatment of chronic kidney disease through  
63 community-based programs that address racial disparities in the  
64 awareness, diagnosis, and treatment of the disease is  
65 acknowledged.