

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 87

BY REPRESENTATIVES ROBERT OWEN, ADAMS, ROBBY CARTER, CORMIER,  
COX, GREEN, HUGHES, ILLG, JEFFERSON, JONES, LARVADAIN, PIERRE,  
THOMPSON, WHITE, AND WILLARD

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To create a task force to study and make recommendations for increasing awareness of chronic kidney disease, to request the task force to work with policymakers, public health entities, and educational institutions to create educational health programs to promote awareness, and to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature of Louisiana not later than thirty days prior to the convening of the 2022 Regular Session.

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), when a person develops chronic kidney disease, his kidneys become damaged and over time the kidneys may not clean the blood as well as healthy kidneys; and

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, kidneys that do not work well can lead to toxic waste and extra fluid accumulating in the body and may lead to high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, and premature death; and

WHEREAS, according to CDC estimates, approximately fifteen percent of adults in the United States, or roughly thirty-seven million people, have chronic kidney disease; and

WHEREAS, the CDC also estimates that approximately ninety percent of adults with chronic kidney disease do not know they have the disease and approximately forty percent of adults with severe chronic kidney disease do not know they have the disease; and

WHEREAS, through access to educational health programs on chronic kidney disease, people with or at risk for this disease can acquire the information necessary to combat the disease; and

WHEREAS, by increasing awareness of chronic kidney disease through promoting kidney health, promoting early diagnosis and treatment, and preventing and controlling risk factors for chronic kidney disease, people with or at risk for chronic kidney disease can be empowered to take the necessary steps to protect their kidneys.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby establish the Kidney Disease Prevention and Education Task Force to study and make recommendations for increasing awareness of chronic kidney disease and to work with policymakers, public health entities, and educational institutions to create educational health programs to promote awareness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of the task force shall be as follows:

- (1) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.
- (2) The chancellor of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans or his designee.
- (3) The chancellor of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport or his designee.
- (4) One representative from the National Kidney Foundation of Louisiana.
- (5) One representative from the Louisiana State Medical Society.
- (6) One representative from the Louisiana Public Health Institute.
- (7) One representative appointed by the American Kidney Fund.
- (8) One representative from the Tulane University School of Medicine.
- (9) One representative from the Louisiana Primary Care Association.
- (10) One representative from the Southern University School of Nursing.
- (11) One representative from Ochsner Health System.
- (12) One representative from LCMC Health System.
- (13) One representative from the Louisiana State Nurses Association.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health shall provide staff support as needed by the task force.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at its first meeting, the task force shall elect from among its members a chairperson, who shall preside over the task force.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve without compensation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall convene its first meeting by September 1, 2021, and shall meet as frequently as it deems necessary for the timely performance of its duties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature of Louisiana not later than thirty days prior to the convening of the 2022 Regular Session.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall study and make recommendations concerning matters that include but are not limited to the following:

- (1) The examination of existing disparities, if any, on how chronic kidney disease, transplantation, and kidney donation affect and impact non-minorities versus minorities and how to reduce or eliminate those disparities.
- (2) The development of a sustainable plan to increase awareness about early detection, promote health equity and transplantation, and reduce the burden of kidney disease throughout the state of Louisiana.
- (3) The development of a sustainable plan to conduct health education workshops and seminars in order to promote awareness about chronic kidney disease.
- (4) The development of a sustainable plan to increase preventive screening of chronic kidney disease in order to help bring about awareness of the disease and to screen, find, and treat people who may have the disease.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the chancellor of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans, the chancellor of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport, the chief executive officer of the National Kidney Foundation of Louisiana, the president of the Louisiana State Medical Society, the chief executive officer of the Louisiana Public Health Institute, the president and chief executive officer of the American Kidney Fund, the dean of the Tulane University School of Medicine, the executive director of the Louisiana Primary Care Association, the dean of the Southern University School of Nursing, the chief executive officer of Ochsner Health

System, the chief executive officer of LCMC Health System, and the executive director of the Louisiana State Nurses Association.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE