
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MARCH AS HAWAII KIDNEY AWARENESS MONTH.

1 WHEREAS, chronic kidney disease is a major health concern
2 that affects an estimated thirty-seven million individuals
3 nationwide, and millions more are at risk of developing the
4 disease; and

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6 WHEREAS, according to the American Kidney Fund, nine out of
7 ten people having early kidney disease do not realize that they
8 have the disease because the disease's symptoms do not usually
9 manifest until later stages; and

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11 WHEREAS, chronic kidney disease may progress quickly or
12 slowly through five stages, the final of which is known as "end
13 stage kidney disease", which must be treated with kidney
14 replacement or dialysis; and

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16 WHEREAS, the incidence of end stage kidney disease is
17 rising quickly; and

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19 WHEREAS, there are currently more than 785,000 Americans
20 who have been diagnosed with kidney failure, an increase of more
21 than one hundred percent since the year 2000; and

22
23 WHEREAS, moreover, approximately five hundred fifty
24 thousand patients are on dialysis, and more than two hundred
25 twenty thousand people are living with functioning kidney
26 transplants; and

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28 WHEREAS, kidney disease is treatable: with early detection
29 and treatment, including simple blood and urine tests, it is
30 often possible to slow or even stop the progress of the disease;
31 and

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1 WHEREAS, symptoms of chronic kidney disease include changes
2 in urination; swelling of the feet, ankles, hands, or face;
3 fatigue and weakness; shortness of breath; ammonia breath or
4 ammonia or metallic taste in the mouth; back or flank pain;
5 itching; loss of appetite; nausea and vomiting; and, if
6 diabetic, more hypoglycemic episodes; and
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8 WHEREAS, minority populations suffer disproportionately
9 from chronic kidney disease; and
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11 WHEREAS, according to the National Kidney Foundation, black
12 Americans are almost four times more likely than white Americans
13 to develop kidney failure, and Hispanics are thirty percent more
14 likely than non-Hispanics to develop kidney failure; and
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16 WHEREAS, studies have also shown that Native Hawaiians and
17 Pacific Islanders living in the United States and Pacific
18 territories have even higher rates of end stage kidney disease
19 incidence; and
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21 WHEREAS, among Asian Americans aged thirty to thirty-nine,
22 the rate of kidney failure caused by diabetes doubled in the ten
23 years between 2000 and 2010, an alarmingly high increase; and
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25 WHEREAS, because many Hawaii residents suffer from diabetes
26 and high blood pressure, which are the two leading causes of
27 kidney failure, chronic kidney disease is a particularly
28 dangerous threat to the people of Hawaii; and
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30 WHEREAS, in fact, Hawaii's kidney failure rate is thirty
31 percent higher than the national rate; and
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33 WHEREAS, this affliction may continue to ravage our
34 communities unabated; and
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36 WHEREAS, in light of the silent danger posed by chronic
37 kidney disease and its prevalence in Hawaii, increasing
38 awareness of chronic kidney disease must become a top health
39 care priority within the State; now, therefore,
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41 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
42 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular

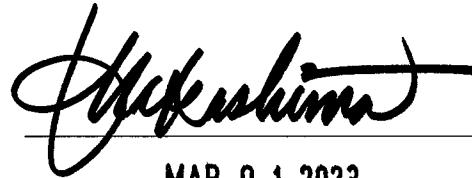


H.C.R. NO. 28

1 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the month of March
2 is hereby designated as Hawaii Kidney Awareness Month; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
6 of Health, and chief executive officer of the National Kidney
7 Foundation of Hawaii.
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OFFERED BY: _____



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