

By: Senator F. Love
By: Representative T. Shephard

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

TO DESIGNATE MARCH 2023 AS RARE KIDNEY DISEASE
AWARENESS MONTH IN ARKANSAS TO INCREASE PUBLIC
AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE GENETIC CAUSES OF
RARE KIDNEY DISEASE.

Subtitle

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DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH IN ARKANSAS TO
INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND
UNDERSTANDING OF THE GENETIC CAUSES OF
RARE KIDNEY DISEASE.

WHEREAS, March is nationally recognized as National Kidney Month and this recognition is an important opportunity to raise public awareness and understanding of rare kidney diseases, such as APOLI-mediated kidney disease; and

WHEREAS, APOL1 genetic variants account for much of the excess risk of chronic and end-stage kidney disease for persons of African ancestry, including people of African American, Afro-Caribbean, and Latin descent; and

WHEREAS, APOL1 explains the disproportionate rate of kidney disease in people of African ancestry as African Americans make up thirteen percent (13%) of the United States population, but account for thirty-two percent (32%) of all kidney failure and thirty-five percent (35%) of all end stage kidney disease; and



WHEREAS, African Americans are four (4) times more likely to develop kidney failure than White Americans; and

WHEREAS, APOLI-mediated kidney disease is driven by genetic factors and is underdiagnosed; and

WHEREAS, symptoms do not present until kidney damage is advanced and symptoms include fatigue, swelling in the legs and feet, and weight gain; and

WHEREAS, increasing public awareness and understanding of the genetic causes of rare kidney disease could lead to early diagnosis and care for some of the most vulnerable populations and empower and educate those at risk on how they can manage it,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Senate, with the House of Representatives concurring, designate March 2023 as Rare Kidney Disease Awareness Month in Arkansas.