

1 HJR106
2 211494-1
3 By Representatives Rogers, Jones (S), Gray, Daniels, Lawrence,
4 Chestnut, Shaver, Morris, Smith, Dismukes, Hanes, McCampbell,
5 Sorrell, Robertson, Meadows, Isbell, Scott, Moore (M),
6 Marques, Sorrells, Mooney, Simpson, Stadthagen, Brown (C),
7 Sullivan, Whitt, Reynolds, Easterbrook, Kitchens, Wheeler,
8 Oliver, Crawford, Givan, Coleman and Gaston
9 RFD: Rules
10 First Read: 09-MAR-21

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8 RECOGNIZING MARCH 2021 AS RARE KIDNEY DISEASE
9 AWARENESS MONTH IN ALABAMA.

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11 WHEREAS, in an effort to increase awareness and
12 promote research to improve treatment and seek a cure, March
13 is recognized as Rare Kidney Disease Awareness Month; it is
14 important to raise public awareness and understanding of rare
15 kidney diseases, such as APOL1 mediated focal segmental
16 glomerulosclerosis (FSGS); and

17 WHEREAS, APOL1 genetic variants account for much of
18 the excess risk of chronic and end stage kidney disease for
19 persons of African ancestry, including people who identify as
20 African American, Afro-Caribbean, and Latinx; and

21 WHEREAS, APOL1 explains the disproportionate rate of
22 kidney disease in people of African ancestry; African
23 Americans make up 13 percent of the United States' population,
24 but account for 32 percent of all kidney failure and 35
25 percent of all end stage kidney disease; in addition, African
26 Americans are four times more likely to develop kidney failure
27 than white Americans; and

1 WHEREAS, APOL1-mediated FSGS is a rapidly
2 progressive kidney disorder that results in high levels of
3 protein in the urine and decreased ability of the kidney to
4 function; the disease almost invariably leads to kidney
5 failure, which requires dialysis or a transplant; in 50
6 percent of those living with APOL1-mediated FSGS, kidney
7 failure occurs within five years; symptoms do not present
8 until kidney damage is advanced; when symptoms emerge, they
9 include fatigue, swelling in the legs and feet and weight
10 gain, among others; and

11 WHEREAS, Rare Kidney Disease Awareness month
12 provides opportunities for Alabamians to become involved and
13 increase public awareness and understanding of rare kidney
14 disease and could lead to early diagnosis and care for some of
15 the most vulnerable populations and empower and educate those
16 at risk on how they can manage it; there are currently no
17 approved treatments that address the underlying cause of
18 APOL1-mediated FSGS; now therefore,

19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
20 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That March 2021 is recognized as
21 Rare Kidney Disease Awareness Month, and this resolution is
22 offered in highest tribute to those impacted by the disease
23 and we encourage the cooperation and participation of all
24 Alabama citizens in the research for effective treatment and a
25 cure.