

By: Guillen

H.C.R. No. 43

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, More than 30 million people are estimated to have  
2 kidney disease in the United States, and one in every three  
3 Americans is at risk for developing the disease due to diabetes,  
4 high blood pressure, or a family history of renal failure; and

5 WHEREAS, The kidneys are vital organs that perform a number  
6 of tasks crucial to overall health, including filtering blood,  
7 regulating blood pressure, and controlling red blood cell  
8 production; and

9 WHEREAS, Chronic kidney disease is characterized by the  
10 gradual loss of kidney function, which in advanced stages results  
11 in the dangerous buildup of fluids, electrolytes, and wastes in the  
12 body; because kidney disease often has few or no symptoms in its  
13 early stages, it frequently goes unnoticed until kidney function is  
14 significantly impaired; and

15 WHEREAS, Currently, there are more than 50,000 Texans  
16 receiving dialysis due to impaired kidney function, and the cost of  
17 providing this treatment is high, at an average of more than \$80,000  
18 per person annually; in 2016, the total Medicare cost of chronic  
19 kidney disease and end-stage renal disease was a combined \$114  
20 billion; in addition, kidney patients comprise the vast majority of  
21 those on the national organ transplant waiting list, where they  
22 face a median wait time of 3.6 years; and

23 WHEREAS, Chronic kidney disease imposes a heavy physical,  
24 emotional, and economic burden, but studies have continuously

1 attested to the benefits of early detection and treatment in  
2 reducing the incidence of end-stage renal disease and lessening the  
3 need for renal dialysis and transplants to keep patients healthy;  
4 the observance of Kidney Health Awareness Month provides an  
5 opportunity to focus attention on a health issue that may be going  
6 unnoticed by many thousands of Texans, as well as to highlight  
7 chronic kidney disease as an urgent priority for our state; now,  
8 therefore, be it

9         RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas  
10 hereby designate February as Kidney Health Awareness Month; and, be  
11 it further

12         RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section  
13 [391.004\(d\)](#), Government Code, this designation remain in effect  
14 until the 10th anniversary of the date that this resolution is  
15 finally passed by the legislature.