



SPONSOR: Rep. Bentz & Sen. S. McBride
Sens. Poore, Richardson

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF MARCH 2021 AS "RARE KIDNEY DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH" IN
DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, March is recognized as National Kidney Month, an important opportunity to raise public awareness
2 and understanding of rare kidney diseases, such as APOL1 mediated focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS); and

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

5 WHEREAS, APOL1 explains the disproportionate rate of kidney disease in people of African ancestry; African
6 Americans make up 13% of the United States population, but account for 32% of all kidney failure and 35% of all end stage
7 kidney disease; in addition, African Americans are 4X more likely to develop kidney failure than White Americans; and

8 WHEREAS, APOL1-mediated FSGS is a rapidly progressive kidney disorder that results in high levels of protein
9 in the urine and decreased ability of the kidney to function; and

10 WHEREAS, the disease almost invariably leads to kidney failure, which requires dialysis or a transplant. In 50%
11 of those living with APOL1-mediated FSGS, kidney failure occurs within 5 years; and

12 WHEREAS, APOL1 mediated kidney disease is driven by genetic factors and is underdiagnosed; and

13 WHEREAS, symptoms do not present until kidney damage is advanced. When symptoms emerge, they include
14 fatigue, swelling in the legs and feet and weight gain, among others; and

15 WHEREAS, there are currently no approved treatments that address the underlying cause of APOL1-mediated
16 FSGS; and

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

19 NOW, THEREFORE:

20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 151st General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the
21 Senate concurring therein, that the members of the General Assembly hereby recognize the month of March 2021 as "Rare
22 Kidney Disease Awareness Month" in the State of Delaware.

SYNOPSIS

This Concurrent Resolution recognizes March 2021 as Rare Kidney Disease Month in Delaware.