

Senate Resolution 725

By: Senators Thomas of the 54th and Harbison of the 15th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing the Georgia Department of Public Health; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, chronic kidney disease afflicts 900,000 Georgians and is an epidemic in our
3 state; and
- 4 WHEREAS, chronic kidney disease may lead to cardiovascular complications, bone disease,
5 and irreversible kidney failure; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Georgians most severely affected by chronic kidney disease include 14,000
7 Georgians receiving dialysis treatments in 217 dialysis centers, 4,000 Georgians living with
8 transplanted organs, and another 1,300 Georgians on the waiting list for an organ transplant;
9 and
- 10 WHEREAS, the combined financial impact of this devastating disease on Georgia's health
11 care system is \$800 million annually; and
- 12 WHEREAS, African Americans comprise 60 percent of kidney failure patients in Georgia
13 and are among those at highest risk for undiagnosed chronic kidney disease; and
- 14 WHEREAS, simple, cost-effective means are available to identify and diagnose chronic
15 kidney disease and associated life threatening complications; and
- 16 WHEREAS, cost-effective means can determine level of kidney function and provide
17 information for clinicians about therapeutic interventions that may preserve kidney function,
18 sustain life, and delay progression to end state renal disease and/or renal transplantation; and
- 19 WHEREAS, evidence based clinical guidelines have been developed by scientists and renal
20 experts and published in peer reviewed journals; and

1 WHEREAS, the broad dissemination of peer reviewed, published clinical guidelines on the
2 management of chronic kidney disease within the state's hospitals, among its health care
3 professionals and to ordinary citizens, most especially those with diabetes, high blood
4 pressure, and those with a relative on dialysis, could save the lives of countless Georgians.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that this body recognizes and
6 applauds the proactive leadership of the Georgia Department of Public Health for developing
7 Georgia's *Chronic Kidney Disease Surveillance Report*.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
9 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Department of Public
10 Health.