

House Bill 203

By: Representatives Maddox of the 172nd, Cooper of the 41st, Talton of the 145th, Everson of the 106th, Stephens of the 164th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 Department of Human Resources, so as to provide for the establishment of a task force to
3 develop a plan for education on chronic kidney disease; to provide for membership and
4 appointment of members to the task force; to provide for duties and responsibilities; to
5 provide for reports and recommendations from such task force; to provide for related matters;
6 to provide for automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 2 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department
10 of Human Resources, is amended by adding a new Code section as follows:

11 "31-2-10.

12 (a) There is created within the Division of Public Health of the Department of Human
13 Resources the Chronic Kidney Disease Task Force. The task force shall be composed of
14 22 members appointed as provided in this Code section who shall serve without
15 compensation except for actual expenses incurred for travel on the official business of the
16 task force. Vacancies in the task force shall be filled by appointment in the manner of the
17 original appointment.

18 (b) The commissioner of human resources, or his or her designee, shall be one member of
19 the task force and shall serve as the chairperson. The Speaker of the House of
20 Representatives shall appoint two members. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate
21 shall appoint two members. The director of the Division of Public Health of the
22 Department of Human Resources shall appoint two members. The commissioner of
23 community health shall appoint two members. The Governor shall appoint an additional
24 13 members of the task force as follows:

25 (1) Two Georgia nephrologists;

26 (2) A citizen of Georgia who has been diagnosed with chronic kidney disease;

- 1 (3) A person who works for one of the major voluntary health organizations in Georgia
2 which seeks to prevent kidney disease;
- 3 (4) A representative from each of the four medical schools in Georgia;
- 4 (5) A registered nurse who specializes in nephrology;
- 5 (6) A licensed social worker who specializes in nephrology;
- 6 (7) A renal nutritionist;
- 7 (8) A dialysis technician; and
- 8 (9) A nephrology technician who represents clinical laboratories.
- 9 (c) The chairperson shall convene the first meeting of the task force before July 31, 2007.
- 10 (d) The task force shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
- 11 (1) To develop a plan to educate the public and health care professionals about the
12 advantages and methods of early screening, diagnosis, and treatment of chronic kidney
13 disease and its complications based on the Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative
14 Clinical Practice Guidelines or other medically recognized clinical practice guidelines;
- 15 (2) To develop a plan to educate health care professionals about early kidney
16 replacement therapy education for patients, including in-center dialysis, home
17 hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, and vascular access options and transplantation, prior
18 to the onset of kidney failure;
- 19 (3) To make recommendations on the implementation of a cost-effective plan for early
20 screening, diagnosis, and treatment of chronic kidney disease and its complications for
21 the State's population;
- 22 (4) To provide a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly,
23 the Governor, and the chairpersons of the Senate and House of Representatives Health
24 and Human Services Committees no later than December 31, 2007; and
- 25 (5) To perform such other activities as the task force finds necessary or convenient in
26 order to accomplish its purposes under this Code section.
- 27 (e) The Department of Human Resources shall provide to the task force necessary staff,
28 research, and meeting facilities.
- 29 (f) The task force shall complete its work no later than December 31, 2007, and shall stand
30 abolished on January 1, 2008. This Code section shall be repealed by operation of law on
31 January 1, 2008."

32 **SECTION 2.**

33 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.