STATE OF OKLAHOMA
1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

HOUSE BILL 2810

By: Sneed

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to public health; creating the Kidney Disease Prevention and Education Task Force Act; stating legislative findings; creating the Kidney Disease Prevention and Education Task Force; providing for membership; providing for meeting dates; providing that members serve without compensation; providing for staffing; requiring certain study, plan, and reports; providing a sunset date; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 7315 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Kidney Disease Prevention and Education Task Force Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 7316 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Legislature finds that:
A. Kidney disease is the ninth-leading cause of death in the United States. An estimated thirty-seven million (37,000,000) people in the United States have chronic kidney disease and more than seventy-two thousand (72,000) people in the State of Oklahoma are living with the disease. Early chronic kidney disease has no signs or symptoms and without early detection can progress to kidney failure.

B. If a person has high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, or a family history of kidney failure, the risk of kidney disease is greater. In Oklahoma, fourteen percent (14%) of all adults have diabetes, and nearly forty percent (40%) have high blood pressure. The prevalence of diabetes, heart disease, and hypertension is higher for African Americans, who develop kidney failure at a rate of nearly four to one compared to Caucasians, while Hispanics have a thirty percent (30%) higher risk of developing kidney failure. Almost twenty-nine percent (29%) of the people waiting for a kidney in the United States identify as African American, but, in 2019, less than twenty-six percent (26%) of those waiting received a kidney.

C. Although dialysis is a life-extending treatment, the best and most cost-effective treatment for kidney failure is a kidney transplant. Currently, the wait in Oklahoma for a deceased donor kidney is five (5) to seven (7) years, and nationally twelve people die while waiting every day.
D. If chronic kidney disease is detected early and managed appropriately, the individual can receive treatment sooner to help protect the kidneys, the deterioration in kidney function can be slowed or even stopped, and the risk of associated cardiovascular complications and other complications can be reduced.

E. In light of the Covid-19 pandemic and the increased risk of infection to patients with preexisting conditions and Covid-19 patients acquiring acute kidney disease, it is imperative to provide support for those with kidney disease.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 7317 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created the Kidney Disease Prevention and Education Task Force.

B. The Task Force shall consist of at least fourteen (14) members to be appointed or selected as follows:

1. The President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate, or his or her designee, who shall serve as cochair;

2. The Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, or his or her designee, who shall serve as cochair;

3. One member of the Oklahoma State Senate, who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

4. One member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House;
5. Two members, appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall represent the State Department of Health and the other of whom shall represent a nationwide, nonprofit organization dedicated to kidney research, education, and support;

6. The Secretary of State, or his or her designee;

7. Seven members appointed by the cochairs, as follows:
   a. one member representing the renal care provider community,
   b. one member representing a medical center with a kidney-related program,
   c. one member representing the kidney physician community,
   d. one member representing a nonprofit organ procurement organization,
   e. one member representing the kidney patient community in Oklahoma,
   f. one member representing tribal governments, and
   g. one member representing providers of emergency ambulance transportation; and

8. Other additional members, appointed by the cochairs as they see fit, representing public health clinics, community health centers, minority health organizations, and private health insurers.

C. The Task Force shall conduct an organizational meeting not later than December 31, 2021. A majority of the members present at
the organizational meeting or any subsequent meeting shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of any action taken including the preparation and approval of the reports required by subsection G of this section. The Task Force shall be authorized to meet as necessary in order to perform the duties imposed upon it.

D. Members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation.

E. Staff assistance for the Task Force shall be provided by the staff of the State Department of Health.

F. The Task Force shall conduct a study regarding chronic kidney disease, transplantations, living and deceased kidney donation, and the disparities in affliction rates among racial groups. After the study is complete, the Task Force shall develop a sustainable plan to raise awareness about early detection, promote health equity, promote transplantation, and reduce the burden of kidney disease throughout Oklahoma. The plan shall include an ongoing campaign that includes health education workshops and seminars, preventive screenings, relevant research, and that promotes social media campaigns and television and radio commercials.

G. The Task Force shall submit an initial report to the Governor, the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate not later than December 31, 2022, and annually thereafter.
H. The provisions of this section shall cease to have the force and effect of law and the Task Force shall terminate effective January 1, 2027.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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