

## 2002 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 259

*Designating May 12—18, 2002, as Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Week in Virginia.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 4, 2002

Agreed to by the Senate, February 28, 2002

WHEREAS, Polycystic Kidney Disease, or PKD, is the most common genetic, life-threatening condition, affecting more than 600,000 Americans and as many as 12.5 million people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Polycystic Kidney Disease involves multiple cysts on the kidneys, cysts that grow and multiply over time, cause the mass of the kidney to increase, and often result in end-stage renal disease, for which dialysis and transplantation are the only forms of treatment; and

WHEREAS, despite its prevalence and severity, Polycystic Kidney Disease attracts relatively little attention and is unknown to the majority of Americans; and

WHEREAS, more importantly, Polycystic Kidney Disease attracts relatively paltry research attention and funding; and

WHEREAS, the National Institutes of Health, for example, designated \$14.4 million for PKD research in 2001, despite the fact that Medicare spends in excess of \$2 billion on dialysis, transplantation and related therapies that are caused by PKD and other renal diseases; and

WHEREAS, the National Institutes of Health research funding amounts to \$24 per person afflicted with PKD, compared to \$3,373 of AIDS funding per person afflicted, \$2,850 for cystic fibrosis, and \$597 for sickle cell anemia; and

WHEREAS, increased public attention and greater funding for research into the causes of and treatments for Polycystic Kidney Disease can provide hope and relief for the 600,000 Americans afflicted with this life-threatening condition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby designate the week of May 12—18, 2002, as Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Week in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the General Assembly urge the citizens of the Commonwealth to become more aware of Polycystic Kidney Disease and to support efforts to find the cause of and a cure for PKD.

ENROLLED

HJ259ER