

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, Kidneys are vital organs which filter 200 liters of blood a day, help regulate blood pressure and direct red blood cell production; however, they are also prone to disease putting 1 in 3 Americans at risk for kidney disease due to major risk factors like diabetes, high blood pressure, a family history of kidney failure and age over 60; and

Whereas, There are an estimated 26 million Americans with kidney disease, most of whom are unaware they have it because there are often no symptoms until the disease has progressed; and

Whereas, In the United States today, more than 600,000 people have kidney failure; 95,000 individuals are awaiting kidney transplants; and kidney disease is the country's 9th leading cause of death; and

Whereas, Hopkinsville, Christian County, and the surrounding area have higher than average incidence of kidney disease; and

Whereas, African Americans suffer from kidney failure at a much higher rate than Caucasians - more than 3 times higher; and

Whereas, It is, therefore, critical that attention be brought to this often-overlooked but increasingly common disease, which untreated can lead to kidney failure.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, Carter M. Hendricks, Mayor of the City of Hopkinsville, and Steve Tribble, Judge/Executive of Christian County, in recognition of this important health observance, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2017, as

NATIONAL KIDNEY MONTH

in Hopkinsville and Christian County, Kentucky, and join the National Kidney Foundation, local physicians, and area medical professionals in calling on all Americans to protect their kidneys and their overall health and to get tested if they are at risk.

Dated this 17th day of March 2017.

**Carter M. Hendricks, Mayor
City of Hopkinsville**

**Steve Tribble, Judge/Executive
Christian County Government**