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# Opinion

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August 12, 2006

## Berry's health reporting helpful

On behalf of everyone at Fresenius Medical Care and the patients we serve throughout the state, I thank Pamela Berry for reporting on the kidney disease crisis in Mississippi ("Chronic kidney disease: Physicians miss symptoms," July 11).

Public awareness about kidney disease and the necessity of quality dialysis care is crucial for our patients, and for those we hope can avoid the condition altogether.

Central to improving the health of patients is support and funding for education, prevention initiatives and treatment.

U.S. Sens. Trent Lott and Thad Cochran, and U.S. Reps. Bennie Thompson, Chip Pickering and Roger Wicker should be commended for their support of the Kidney Care Quality and Improvement Act, which would increase funding for dialysis and contribute to prevention efforts.

Mississippi is fortunate to have elected officials committed to addressing this health crisis and newspapers that care enough to bring it to light.

Jeff McPherson

Regional vice president

Fresenius Medical Care

Jackson

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