

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 44th Legislature (1994)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1108

By: Hamilton (Jeff)

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the importance and value to promote and provide increased awareness of infant mental health needs and services; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the relationship of infant mental health to all aspects of family intervention is one of enormous impact; and

WHEREAS, early intervention efforts and collaboration of agencies is the most cost-effective in terms of tax dollars spent; and

WHEREAS, the issues related to infant mental health can be addressed only with increased awareness as to the importance of this stage of life as it relates to the rest of the lifespan; and

WHEREAS, our children are our future, but if the measure of our value is in dollars, then we need to be keenly aware of the impact of not putting our money where our lip service is; and

WHEREAS, in these times of cutting costs it is critical to call attention to expenditures that promote the well-being of our children in the critical first phase of life; and

WHEREAS, the outcome is not only in terms of saving dollars, but in developing our best natural resource.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 44TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes that it is important and valuable to:

1. Promote education, research and study of the effects of mental development during infancy on later normal and abnormal development;
2. Promote the development of a scientifically based program of care, intervention and prevention of mental impairment in infancy;
3. Promote the optimal development and wellness of the child and family through prevention, identification, treatment and support so they may realize their maximum potential;
4. Encourage cooperation and collaboration with the state and community agencies and individuals that serve children and families within Oklahoma;
5. Encourage the realization that infancy is a crucial period in the psychosocial development of individuals;
6. Advance high standards of professional training, education and supervision of professionals specializing in infant mental health;
7. Educate state agencies, the mental health community and the general public concerning the role of infant mental health in referral, assessment, and treatment;
8. Promote training, research, and development of materials which further the practice of infant mental health; and
9. Promote education and standards on infant mental health in child psychology, child psychiatry, family law, child development, and family therapy.

THAT copies of this resolution shall be distributed to the Commissioner of the State Department of Health, the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, the

Director of the Department of Human Services and the President of
the Health Sciences Center of the University of Oklahoma.

44-2-L9651 CLD