ENGROSSED HOUSE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1073

By: Seikel of the House

and

Long (Ed) of the Senate

A Concurrent Resolution supporting and encouraging safety education in the classroom; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, injuries kill more children each year than diseases, kidnapping and drugs combined; and

WHEREAS, injuries account for more deaths than the major childhood diseases combined, claiming more than four times as many young lives as cancer, the second leading cause of childhood mortalities; and

WHEREAS, approximately 7,200 children are killed and 50,000 are disabled annually as a result of traffic accidents, burns, drowning, falls, choking, poisoning and other unintentional injuries; and

WHEREAS, in Oklahoma, about 130 children through the age of 15 die each year from unintentional injuries; and

WHEREAS, motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death and disability among children 1-4 years of age; and

WHEREAS, in Oklahoma, 10 to 15 children under 6 years of age die and 1,500 are injured in motor vehicle crashes each year; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, bicycle injuries kill approximately 600 children and more than 380,000 are treated in emergency rooms; and

WHEREAS, head injuries account for more than 75% of those bike-related deaths and injuries; and

WHEREAS, drowning is the third leading cause of unintentional deaths of children; and

WHEREAS, falls are the leading cause of hospitalizations and emergency room visits;

WHEREAS, while public education and awareness is our strongest weapon against this killer, distributing safety information alone will not solve the problem; and

WHEREAS, a new grade-specific curriculum is available through the Oklahoma State Department of Health, containing lessons addressing brain, spinal cord and other injuries, bicycle safety and helmet use, emergencies, first aid, home safety, fall prevention, traffic signs and signals, vehicle, bus and pedestrian safety, safety around firearms and water safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 45TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature supports the concept of teaching safety education in the classroom and encourages all classroom teachers to offer this information to their students in an effort to help combat the epidemic of unintentional injuries.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and to each member of the State Board of Education.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 15th day of April, 1996.

Speaker of the House of

Representative

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Adopted by the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1996.

President of the Senate