

ENROLLED SENATE

RESOLUTION NO. 44 By: Brown, Mickle, Bell, Cain, Campbell, Capps, Cole, Dickerson, Douglass, Easley, Fair, Fisher, Ford, Gustafson, Haney, Harrison, Helton, Hendrick, Henry, Herbert, Hobson, Horner, Kerr, Leftwich, Littlefield, Long (Ed), Long (Lewis), Maddox, Martin, Monson, Muegge, Pierce, Price, Roberts, Robinson, Rozell, Rubottom, Shedrick, Shurden, Smith, Snyder, Stipe, Taylor, Weedn, Wilkerson, Williams (Don), Williams (Penny) and Wright

A Resolution commending the American Diabetes Association; encouraging public awareness of the disease; proclaiming March 19, 1996, as "American Diabetes Alert Day" in the State of Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, more than 16 million Americans have diabetes, a disease with no proven cure that impairs the body's ability to convert food sugar into energy, and at least 8 million of these Americans are unaware they have the disease; and

WHEREAS, diabetes is the fourth leading cause of death by disease in the United States, and also a major cause of heart attacks and kidney failure; and

WHEREAS, in this year alone, more than 625,000 Americans will contract the disease and 169,000 cases will result in death, including a disproportionate number of Hispanics, African Americans and Native Americans. No one is immune to diabetes; and

WHEREAS, people whose diabetes goes undiagnosed and untreated are subject to many serious complications, such as blindness, heart disease, kidney disease, stroke, and leg or foot amputations. Early detection and control may improve a diabetic's chances of leading a productive life; and

WHEREAS, an increase in community awareness of diabetes and its impact, and an increased awareness of the role of the American Diabetes Association in combating this terrible disease, may stimulate public action to intensify research toward a cure and heighten awareness about who is susceptible to diabetes; and

WHEREAS, the American Diabetes Association supports research to find a cure and a method of prevention for diabetes, and provides an array of services, programs and materials for improving the well-being of diabetes sufferers and their families; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 1996, the American Diabetes Association will conduct a nationwide American Diabetes Alert campaign to make the public more aware of the importance of being tested for diabetes and to gain support for the vital programs they sponsor.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends the American Diabetes Association for its efforts in alerting Oklahomans and all Americans of the danger of diabetes and encouraging public awareness.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate proclaims March 19, 1996, as "American Diabetes Alert Day" in the State of Oklahoma and asks that every citizen participate in efforts to determine individual risk for diabetes, sound the alert in our state, and support research toward a cure and improvement in the lives of all who have the disease.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Executive Director of the American Diabetes Association, Oklahoma Affiliate, Incorporated.