

ENROLLED HOUSE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1087

By: Boyd (Laura) of the
House

and

Brown and Wilcoxson of
the Senate

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing Child Abuse Prevention Month; stating the costs of child abuse and neglect; stating the importance of preventing child abuse and neglect; supporting public and private agencies for their work in the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, there were 48,399 reports of child abuse and neglect in Oklahoma during fiscal year 1997; and

WHEREAS, 13,627 of those cases were confirmed; and

WHEREAS, 42 of those children died as a result of their abuse or neglect; and

WHEREAS, the Pedaling for Prevention Campaign offers a chance to reduce these numbers through public awareness and thereby help to ameliorate the financial and social costs of child maltreatment to our society; and

WHEREAS, research has demonstrated that child abuse and neglect can be reduced through media campaigns like the Pedaling for Prevention Campaign; and

WHEREAS, early intervention efforts in situations where abuse or neglect has already occurred have been shown to prevent further deterioration of the family and help maximize the family's strengths; and

WHEREAS, each day in the State of Oklahoma, hundreds of dedicated professionals, paraprofessionals and volunteers work to prevent and alleviate the physical and emotional scars caused by child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, in response to the need to raise awareness regarding child abuse and neglect, the University of Oklahoma College of Continuing Education Center for Child and Family Development annually conducts the Pedaling for Prevention Campaign; and

WHEREAS, the 1998 campaign called "100,000 Miles for Children" is being conducted by the Center in cooperation with the offices of the Governor, the Attorney General, the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Human Services, and Oklahoma's advocates for children; and

WHEREAS, the 100,000 Miles for Children awareness campaign will encourage citizens to live healthier lifestyles through exercise for the benefit of Oklahoma children; and

WHEREAS, during the 100,000 Miles for Children campaign seven cyclists will ride from the steps of the Oklahoma State Capitol to Washington, D.C., to meet with the entire Oklahoma Congressional Delegation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the current rate of child abuse and neglect is intolerable.

THAT early and appropriate intervention into abusive situations is necessary to prevent future incidents of abuse and neglect.

THAT the prevention of child abuse and neglect continues to be a high priority of the Oklahoma Legislature.

THAT prevention awareness programs such as the Pedaling for Prevention Campaign must be supported fully by the Oklahoma Legislature.

THAT April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and it is fitting to raise awareness regarding child abuse and neglect issues through this concurrent resolution.

THAT copies of this resolution shall be distributed to the Governor, the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Human Services, the membership of the State Board of Health, the Human Services Commission, the Board of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth, the Oklahoma Child Abuse Prevention Coalition and the University of Oklahoma Center for Child and Family Development.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 21st day of April,
1998.

of Speaker of the House
s Representative

Adopted by the Senate the 28th day of April, 1998.

Senate President of the