

ENROLLED SENATE  
RESOLUTION NO. 24 By: Long

A Resolution declaring April 21-27, 1997, as Minority Marrow Recruitment Week in the State of Oklahoma; encouraging all Oklahomans to join the National Marrow Donor Program registry; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, fatal blood diseases such as aplastic anemia, leukemia, histiocytic disorders and Hodgkin's lymphoma are contracted on a national level by approximately 16,000 people per year; and

WHEREAS, these fatal blood diseases can be treated by bone marrow transplants, "The Gift of Life", which are the only real cure; and

WHEREAS, only 22% of the 2.7 million people on the National Marrow Donor Program registry are from minority populations and of the 5,424 transplant recipients only 654, or 12%, are minorities; and

WHEREAS, the Native American Marrow Recruitment Project, a special project of the National Marrow Donor Program, has recruited more than 5,000 people to the registry in Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico, North Dakota and South Dakota in the past two and a half years; and

WHEREAS, the Native American Marrow Recruitment Project is sponsoring a major minority donor recruitment event in the greater Oklahoma City metropolitan area. All minorities will be tested and can register free of charge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate declares April 21-27, 1997, as Minority Marrow Recruitment Week in the State of Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate encourages all Oklahomans to join the National Marrow Donor Program registry.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Donna Rhodes-Martin, Recruiter-Trainer for the American Indian Research and Development, Inc., of Norman, Oklahoma, the Oklahoma affiliate of the National Marrow Donor Program.

Adopted by the Senate the 16th day of April, 1997.

President of the Senate