ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 61 By: Mickle, Brown, Cain, Campbell, Capps, Dickerson, Douglass, Dunlap, Easley, Fair, Fisher, Ford, Gustafson, Haney, Harrison, Helton, Hendrick, Henry, Herbert, Hobson, Horner, Kerr, Laughlin, Leftwich, Littlefield, Long, Maddox, Martin, Milacek, Monson, Morgan, Muegge, Price, Rabon, Roberts, Robinson, Rozell, Shurden, Smith, Snyder, Stipe, Taylor, Weedn, Wilcoxson, Wilkerson, Williams, Williamson and Wright

A Resolution commending the American Diabetes Association; encouraging public awareness of the disease; proclaiming March 24, 1998, as "American Diabetes Alert Day" in the State of Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, close to 16 million Americans and 200,000 Oklahomans have diabetes, a disease with no proven cure that impairs the body's ability to convert food sugar into energy. At least 5.4 million Americans, including 67,000 Oklahomans, are unaware they have the disease; and

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

WHEREAS, in this year alone, more than 798,000 Americans will be diagnosed as having diabetes, 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. 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 a heightened knowledge 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 24, 1998, 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 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate proclaims March 24, 1998, 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.

Adopted by the Senate the 23rd day of March, 1998.

President of the Senate