SHORT TITLE: Supporting child abuse prevention; proclaiming April 23, 1997, as Child Abuse Prevention Day; distribution.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 26 By: Robinson

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution supporting child abuse prevention; proclaiming April 23, 1997, as Child Abuse Prevention Day; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the creation of a safe and healthy environment in which to nurture our children is a worthy goal for our state, and we must assist in providing the children with hope and enthusiasm for their future; and

WHEREAS, in support of this goal, many charitable and volunteer groups, and federal, state, and local agencies are offering programs which address the most pressing needs of Oklahoma's children. Examples of programs which are working include the pilot "Healthy Families Oklahoma" project in Shawnee, and the "First Steps" program in Tulsa; and

WHEREAS, in spite of the success of programs such as these, in the last year more than 40,916 cases were investigated in our state and 11,646 cases of child abuse were confirmed. In the past ten years, 296 children died of neglect or were killed by child abusers in Oklahoma alone; and

WHEREAS, the epidemic of child abuse destroys, forever, the lives of countless Oklahoma children; and if even one child in Oklahoma experiences the trauma of physical or emotional abuse, the future well-being of our state is at risk.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate supports the goal of the creation of a safe and healthy environment in which to nurture our children.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate proclaims April 23, 1997, as Child Abuse Prevention Day.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma Committee to Prevent Child Abuse and the Office of Child Abuse Prevention of the State Department of Health.

46-1-1315 THC