

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 47th Legislature (2000)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION HCR1078

By: Hutchison of the House

and

Herbert of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the positive impact of recreation and parks activities on reduced tobacco use; stating intent concerning utilization of a portion of tobacco settlement funds; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, tremendous public support exists for utilizing tobacco settlement funds for tobacco prevention; and

WHEREAS, sports and physical activity are positive, viable alternatives to smoking in the lives of all Oklahomans; and

WHEREAS, park and recreation facilities and programs provide many public health benefits and are the perfect setting to educate children and adults about the perils of tobacco use; and

WHEREAS, students who play at least one sport are 40% less likely to be regular smokers and 50% less likely to be heavy smokers; and

WHEREAS, public education of American citizens about the health problems associated with tobacco use is consistent throughout the tobacco settlement agreement; and

WHEREAS, national health organizations, such as the American Medical Association, the Center for Disease Control, and the United States Surgeon General recognize the importance of providing access to park and recreation programs and facilities in reducing tobacco use.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 47TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT proper development and operation of public park and recreation facilities of Oklahoma are major steps the State of Oklahoma can make toward a balanced program to reduced tobacco use.

THAT participation in recreation and sports programs provides long-term solutions and alternatives for every Oklahoman.

THAT the Oklahoma Recreation and Development Act provides the necessary vehicle to distribute funds equitably throughout Oklahoma in both rural and urban settings.

THAT three and one-half percent (3 1/2%) of tobacco settlement funds be placed in the Oklahoma Recreation and Development Revolving Fund for distribution throughout the State of Oklahoma.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Director of the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department.

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