STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 48th Legislature (2001)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION HCR1028 By: Lindley of the House

and

Leftwich of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution declaring May to be Oklahoma Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month; recognizing John J. Mulvihill and Rosita Kirshman; and providing for distribution.

WHEREAS, Neurofibromatosis (NF) is one of the most common worldwide genetic disorders, and affects more than 100,000 Americans; and

WHEREAS, NF affects one out of every four thousand Oklahomans, and there is no effective treatment or cure for this disorder; and

WHEREAS, Neurofibromatosis can appear in any family because it affects both genders equally and has no particular racial, geographic or ethnic distribution; and

WHEREAS, NF was first identified in 1882, but research through the National Neurofibromatosis Foundation was begun in this country only sixteen years ago. Nevertheless, this research has been enormously productive with discoveries of the two genes that cause NF; and

WHEREAS, through the efforts of John J. Mulvihill, M.D., and Rosita Kirshman, M.D., at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Oklahoma has joined the worldwide team of scientists seeking to identify a treatment and cure for NF; and

WHEREAS, Initiatives for Neurofibromatosis in Oklahoma (INFO) was established on July 7, 1995, as a support group for Oklahomans with NF; and

WHEREAS, because awareness of NF remains very limited, INFO, along with the National Neurofibromatosis Foundation and the International Neurofibromatosis Association, provide educational opportunities in Oklahoma, nationally and worldwide to the lay community, educators and health care professionals; and

WHEREAS, the International Neurofibromatosis Association has declared May to be World Neurofibromatosis Month; and

WHEREAS, continued efforts at public and professional education and development of NF clinics and support groups will benefit the lives of all Oklahomans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 48TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma State Senate declare May to be Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month in Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes and honors Dr. Mulvihill for his twenty-seven years of research and treatment of NF patients and for bringing a wealth of experience and knowledge to Oklahoma and the benefits this will provide all Oklahomans.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature further recognizes and honors Dr. Rosita Kirshman for her hard work and dedication to NF research and to public education about this disease.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature praises the Children's Medical Research Institute for its commitment to research on NF and for its efforts to promote public awareness and understanding of this disease.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to Dr. John J. Mulvihill, Dr. Rosita Kirshman, the National Neurofibromatosis

Foundation, the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Neurofibromatosis Foundation, and the governing body and membership of the Initiatives for Neurofibromatosis in Oklahoma.

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