STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 48th Legislature (2001)

SENATE
RESOLUTION 16 By: Riley

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution proclaiming Saturday, May 12, 2001, "Fibromyalgia Awareness Day" in the State of Oklahoma; urging all citizens to support those seeking a cure and to assist those individuals and families who deal with this devastating disease; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, an estimated ten million people in the United States, 6-8% of the population, and millions of people worldwide have been diagnosed with Fibromyalgia (FM), a disease for which there is no known cure; and

WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia is a chronic illness, increasing at epidemic rates, which causes fatigue and debilitating pain of a magnitude worse than Rheumatoid Arthritis in women, men, and children of all races and all ages; and

WHEREAS, patients of this illness have to learn to live with widespread pain in muscles, joints, and ligaments, extreme fatigue, sleep disorders, stiffness and weakness, migraine headaches, Restless Leg Syndrome, numbness and tingling, impairment of memory and concentration; and

WHEREAS, it often takes an average of five years for a person with Fibromyalgia to receive an accurate diagnosis. Medical professionals frequently are inadequately educated and updated on FM treatment and the newest research findings concerning this disease. It is necessary that we recognize the medical research demonstrating biochemical abnormalities in people with Fibromyalgia; and

WHEREAS, Fibromyalgia in children and young adults presents unique challenges for this population who suffer not only with the symptoms of this illness, but also with the lack of understanding and social acceptance. People with Fibromyalgia face discrimination from employers, friends, family, and the judicial system, while dealing with the ongoing stress of living with an unpredictable disease and an uncertain future; and

WHEREAS, the National Fibromyalgia Awareness Campaign and Fibromyalgia Support Organizations around our country have joined together to promote FM awareness, advocacy, and support, including improved education, diagnosis, research, and treatments. Understanding this illness will help guarantee hope for a better future for people with Fibromyalgia.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate, recognizing the needs of these chronically ill people, proclaims Saturday, May 12, 2001, "Fibromyalgia Awareness Day" in the State of Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate urges all Oklahoma citizens to support those seeking a cure and to assist those individuals and families who, on a daily basis, deal with this devastating disease.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Virginia Cannon, National Fibromyalgia Awareness Campaign volunteer of the Glenpool, Oklahoma, Support Organization.

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