

**EHCR 1044**

**THE STATE SENATE**  
**Tuesday, March 23, 2004**

**ENGROSSED**

**House Concurrent**

**Resolution No. 1044**

ENGROSSED HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1044 - By: LINDLEY, SMITH  
and TOURE of the House and LEFTWICH (Debbe) of the Senate.

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the importance of  
properly treating phenylketonuria; urging health insurance  
coverage for certain medical foods and food products; and  
directing distribution.

WHEREAS, phenylketonuria, also known as PKU, is a genetic  
metabolic disorder affecting approximately one in every 23,244  
newborns in Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, PKU prevents the body from properly metabolizing a  
certain amino acid found in protein foods; and

WHEREAS, when certain amino acids are not properly used by the  
body, they build up in the bloodstream and cause brain damage; and

WHEREAS, to prevent mental retardation and provide optimal  
nutrition for normal growth and development, a lifelong low-protein  
diet is required; and

WHEREAS, in Oklahoma there are publicly funded formula programs  
for children with PKU and for women with PKU who desire to become  
pregnant; and

1       WHEREAS, there are no programs that fund formula for adults not  
2 desiring a pregnancy or that assist families with low-protein foods;  
3 and

4       WHEREAS, the annual cost of formula for an adult with PKU is  
5 approximately \$5,000.00, and the annual cost of low-protein foods  
6 for a child with PKU is \$2,000.00; and

7       WHEREAS, the issue of insurance coverage for medical foods must  
8 be addressed to ensure that adults with PKU have the medical  
9 treatment necessary to remain healthy throughout their lives.

10       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
11 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE  
12 CONCURRING THEREIN:

13       THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes the importance of  
14 improving care for individuals with phenylketonuria.

15       THAT the Oklahoma Legislature urges health insurance companies  
16 that offer, issue, or renew a health benefit plan in the State of  
17 Oklahoma to include coverage for medical foods and food products for  
18 the treatment of PKU and other inherited metabolic diseases.

19       THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Alliance of  
20 American Insurers, the American Insurance Association, the Health  
21 Insurance Association of America, the Independent Insurance Agents  
22 and Brokers of America, the National Association of Independent  
23 Insurers, the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies,

1 the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents, the State  
2 Insurance Commissioner, the PKU Parent Support Group of Oklahoma,  
3 and the Children's PKU Network.

4 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES, dated 3-18-04 -  
5 DO PASS.