

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

HOUSE CONCURRENT

RESOLUTION HCR1079:

Gilbert of the House

and

Horner of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution proclaiming the month of May 2004 as Arthritis Awareness Month in the State of Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the Arthritis Foundation estimates that there are about 70 million Americans, including 726,000 Oklahomans, 18 years of age and older who live with the challenges of arthritis and related conditions, such as scleroderma, lupus, gout and fibromyalgia; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, arthritis costs Americans annually \$86.2 billion, \$51.1 billion in direct costs and \$35.1 billion in indirect costs; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also estimate that arthritis costs Oklahomans about \$1.2 billion, \$726 million in direct and \$499 million in indirect costs yearly; and

WHEREAS, arthritis is the leading cause of disability and the second leading cause of work disability in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Arthritis Foundation is to improve the lives of Americans and Oklahomans through leadership in the prevention, control, and cure of arthritis and related diseases; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the State Department of Health is to protect and promote the health of Oklahomans, to prevent disease and injury, and to assure the conditions for our citizens good health; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Arthritis Network, established in 1999, is a collaborative partnership of health professionals, persons afflicted with arthritis, business leaders, educators, and private/public organizations that work at the community level to reduce the burden of arthritis and related conditions; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Oklahoma Arthritis Network is to increase public awareness of arthritis and related conditions and to maximize the quality of life for Oklahomans affected by these disabling conditions through the development of resources, promotion of access to appropriate health care management, and the promotion of education; and

WHEREAS, nationally the month of May is National Arthritis Month that focuses on urging people to take control of their arthritis by modifying their lifestyles and activities to achieve a healthier life.

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

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature proclaims the month of May 2004 as Arthritis Awareness Month in the State of Oklahoma.

THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Arthritis Foundation, the Oklahoma Arthritis Network and the State Department of Health.

49-2-8996 ASK 04/27/04