

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 49th Legislature (2003)

SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION 24

By: Shurden of the Senate

and

Harrison of the House

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution acknowledging Narconon Arrowhead for its commitment to the eradication of substance abuse; commending Narconon Arrowhead for its successful program design; supporting Narconon Arrowhead's application for state certification of its CARF-accredited nonmedical detoxification program; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Narconon has been successfully operating a drug and alcohol rehabilitation facility accredited by the Commission on Accreditation or Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), as well as a drug education center in Oklahoma since 1992. Narconon has offered its lifesaving drug and alcohol rehabilitation services to more than 2,600 individuals using its own personnel and financial resources and at no cost to the State of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, Narconon has invested more than twenty million dollars into its operations, most of this money from outside the state of Oklahoma. This includes \$5.5 million spent recently on the purchase and renovation of the Arrowhead Lodge in Pittsburg County, the home since September 2001 of Narconon Arrowhead, a 230-bed residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation program; and

WHEREAS, Narconon has plans to add four additional buildings in Pittsburg County at a cost of ten to twelve million dollars in new facilities and land development projects over the next three years so that it can provide additional specialized drug rehabilitation

and education services. Narconon is using its own resources to raise these funds; and

WHEREAS, since opening the Arrowhead drug rehabilitation and education center, Narconon has delivered drug education programs to more than 58,000 young people in Oklahoma schools, youth groups, and church camps throughout the state. All of these drug education programs were delivered at Narconon's expense; and

WHEREAS, Narconon has provided job opportunities for many people in southeastern Oklahoma and is now considered one of the larger employers in Pittsburg County. Not only does it employ 130 individuals, it is also responsible for inducing an additional 141 jobs as a result of the spending of Narconon Arrowhead's employees; and

WHEREAS, Narconon Arrowhead, through the spending of its employees, clients, and visitors and the jobs induced as a result of Narconon Arrowhead's presence, generates \$7.4 million into the local economy. The number is expected to increase to \$11.6 million in spending by 2006; and

WHEREAS, Narconon Arrowhead, through private funding sources, has provided 48 treatment beds per year for indigent people, many from Oklahoma, to participate in Narconon's drug and alcohol rehabilitation program without cost; and

WHEREAS, Narconon Arrowhead does not accept any state or federal funds to provide services of any nature to its clients. Narconon has no intention in the future of seeking state or federal funds to provide services to its clients; and

WHEREAS, Narconon Arrowhead provides an innovative rehabilitation program which helps to meet the challenge for effective alternative rehabilitation modalities to be used to win the War on Drugs. Narconon has maintained CARF accreditation since 1992 and has strived to continually enhance the quality of care it provides its clients. The Narconon drug rehabilitation program is

based on a social model of education as the major component of the rehabilitation process; and

WHEREAS, the standards for certification of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services do not define the type of program that Narconon provides. In order to be in compliance with Oklahoma law and to ensure a continued high level of quality care to its clients, Narconon Arrowhead will submit its nonmedical detoxification program for certification. The remainder of the Narconon drug rehabilitation program meets state certification standards because it is accredited by CARF.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature acknowledges and recognizes Narconon Arrowhead for its dedication to the community and the people of Oklahoma, as well as its commitment to the eradication of substance abuse and the rehabilitation of individuals whose lives have been affected.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature commends Narconon Arrowhead for its highly successful program design which, although now more than twenty years old, is yet to be defined in the state certification regulations.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature supports Narconon Arrowhead's application for state certification of its CARF-accredited nonmedical detoxification program.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Narconon Arrowhead and the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.