ENROLLED HOUSE
CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1049

By: Lamons, Adkins, Armes, Askins, Auffet, Balkman, Banz, Benge, Billy, Bingman, Blackburn, Blackwell, Braddock, Brannon, Brown, Calvey, Carey, Cargill, Case, Coody, Cooksey, Covey, Cox, Dank, Denney, DePue, Deutschendorf, DeWitt, Dorman, Duncan, Eddins, Ellis, Gilbert, Glenn, Hamilton, Harrison, Hastings, Hickman, Hiett, Hilliard, Hyman, Ingmire, Jackson, Jett, Johnson, Jones, Kern, Kiesel, Liebmann, Lindley, Liotta, Martin, Mass, McCarter, McDaniel, McMullen, McPeak, Miller (Doug), Miller (Ken), Miller (Ray), Morgan (Danny), Morgan (Fred), Morrissette, Nance, Nations, Newport, Perry, Peters, Peterson (Pam), Peterson (Ron), Piatt, Plunk, Pruett, Reynolds, Richardson, Roan, Roggow, Rousselot, Shelton, Sherrer, Shoemake, Shumate, Smaligo, Smithson, Staggs, Steele, Sullivan, Sweeden, Terrill, Thompson, Tibbs, Toure, Trebilcock, Turner, Walker, Wesselhoft, Wilt, Winchester, Worthen, Wright and Young of the House

and

Adelson, Aldridge, Anderson, Barrington, Bass, Branan, Brogdon, Cain, Capps, Coates, Coffee, Corn, Crain, Crutchfield, Easley, Eason McIntyre, Fisher, Ford, Garrison, Gumm, Harrison, Hobson, Johnson (Constance), Johnson (Mike), Jolley, Justice, Lamb, Laster, Laughlin, Lawler, Leftwich, Lerblance, Mazzei, Morgan, Myers, Nichols, Paddack, Pruitt, Rabon, Reynolds, Riley, Shurden, Taylor, Wilcoxson, Williamson, Wilson and Wyrick of the Senate

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the importance of finding the cause and cure for Multiple Sclerosis; expressing appreciation to the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS) for its work; proclaiming March 2006 Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a neurological disease of the central nervous system, affecting an estimated 400,000 Americans across this country; and

WHEREAS, nearly 200 new cases of MS are being diagnosed each week nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society reports that in our state more than 21,000 people are affected by this devastating disease; and

WHEREAS, MS generally strikes young adults aged 20 through 40, attacking them in the prime of their lives; and

WHEREAS, some of these young adults diagnosed with MS experience tremendous suffering and pain, leading to total paralysis in some cases; and

WHEREAS, the cause and cure for this debilitating disease remain unknown; and

WHEREAS, the estimated annual economic impact of MS is $23 billion; and

WHEREAS, the annual economic impact of MS on a family is $59,000; and

WHEREAS, the need for accessible housing and home modifications cost people with MS over a half a billion dollars a year; and

WHEREAS, MS may cost an individual an estimated $22,000 annually on lost wages; and

WHEREAS, the cost of health care for an individual is estimated annually at $21,500; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has been committed throughout the years to heightening public knowledge and insight about this devastating and sometimes crippling disease; and

WHEREAS, this dedicated Oklahoma Chapter is currently planning several major statewide fundraisers and educational programs, in order to raise awareness about the effects of MS; and

WHEREAS, Multiple Sclerosis Walks are scheduled this year in Enid, Stillwater and Tulsa on April 8; in Oklahoma City on April 15; and in Lawton on April 29; and

WHEREAS, the Women Against Multiple Sclerosis (WAMS) Luncheon is scheduled for April 12 at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum; and

WHEREAS, finding the cause and developing a method of prevention for MS is an important task that all Americans and Oklahomans should support; and

WHEREAS, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has declared March 13-17, 2006, as “Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week”.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 50TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes the importance of finding the cause and cure for Multiple Sclerosis, a terribly perplexing and painful disease which affects hundreds of thousands of Americans, including many Oklahomans.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature expresses its appreciation and admiration for the major work that the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has done over the years to heighten the public's knowledge and insight about this debilitating disease.

THAT the Oklahoma Legislature proclaims March 2006 as "Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month" and encourages the citizens of this great state to join in the fight to end this devastating disease.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Patrick Evans, Chair of Government Relations, Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society; Paula Cortner, President, Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society; and Robert Margo, Chairman of the Board, Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 22nd day of March, 2006.

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Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

Adopted by the Senate the 23rd day of March, 2006.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate