

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

HOUSE  
RESOLUTION 1101

By: Blackwell

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution honoring the March of Dimes; honoring the 2006 National Ambassador, five-year-old Alexa Ostolaza of Gainesville, Florida; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, in 1938, President Franklin Roosevelt established the March of Dimes with a special mission to improve the health of babies through the prevention of birth defects and infant mortality, and

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2006, the March of Dimes named five-year-old Alexa Ostolaza of Gainesville, Florida, as the first Hispanic child to serve as the 2006 National Ambassador; and

WHEREAS, this appointment reflects the March of Dimes growing concern about the premature birth rates among Hispanics in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Alexa Ostolaza's story represents just one of a half-million babies born premature in this country each year; and

WHEREAS, one of the primary projects of the March of Dimes is to improve access and delivery of prenatal care for pregnant women and to help raise awareness of the growing problem of premature births emphasizing premature births in the Hispanic community; and

WHEREAS, pregnant women without health insurance are less likely to obtain early prenatal care, which can contribute to poor birth outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the March of Dimes is educating women regarding the critical importance of access to prenatal care both for their unborn

children and for them drawing attention to the fastest and largest growing racial/ethnic minority of the Hispanic community; and

WHEREAS, the March of Dimes Prematurity Campaign seeks to help the nation reach the goal set by the U.S. Public Health Service of reducing the rate of premature births from 12.3 percent nationally to 7.6 percent nationally by 2010.

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

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives is supportive of the March of Dimes Prematurity Campaign as this is vital to public health education.

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives honors the prenatal care and Prematurity Campaign supported by the March of Dimes.

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives pays tribute to Alexa Ostolaza, the March of Dimes 2006 National Ambassador.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Alexa and her parents, Jessica and Josue Ostolaza and the March of Dimes.

50-2-9989

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04/10/06