

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

HOUSE  
RESOLUTION 1111

By: Shumate

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution declaring May 2006 as Stroke Awareness Month in Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, May has been recognized as American Stroke Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, strokes are the third leading cause of death in the United States and a leading cause of severe, long-term disability; and

WHEREAS, on average, a stroke occurs every 45 seconds in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on average, someone dies of a stroke every three minutes; and

WHEREAS, in 2006 the estimated direct and indirect cost of stroke will be about \$57.9 Billion Dollars; and

WHEREAS, stroke leads to the death of more than 2,000 citizens of Oklahoma each year; and

WHEREAS, the majority of Americans are not aware of their risk factors for a stroke, nor are they aware of the signs and symptoms of an impending stroke; and

WHEREAS, warning signs of stroke include: sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; and sudden severe headache with no known cause; and

WHEREAS, African-Americans' risk of stroke is twice as high compared to whites and African-Americans have a higher stroke death rate; and

WHEREAS, more than 100,000 African-Americans suffer a new or recurrent stroke every year; and

WHEREAS, the theme for American Stroke Awareness Month 2006 is "Power to End Stroke", an aggressive education and awareness campaign to reach African-Americans, who are at particularly high risk of stroke, with empowering information to help reduce their risk.

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 declares May 2006 to be Stroke Awareness Month in Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives commends the American Stroke Association on its "Power to End Stroke" initiative to reduce stroke in African-American populations.

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives urges all citizens of Oklahoma to familiarize themselves with the warning signs, symptoms, and risk factors associated with stroke so that we might begin to reduce the devastating effects that a stroke makes on our population.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the American Stroke Association.

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