

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 CONCURRENT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 58

By: Adelson, Aldridge,
Anderson, Ballenger,
Barrington, Bass, Bingman,
Branan, Brogdon, Brown,
Burrage, Coates, Coffee,
Corn, Crain, Crutchfield,
Easley, Eason McIntyre,
Ford, Garrison, Gumm,
Ivester, Johnson
(Constance), Johnson
(Mike), Jolley, Justice,
Lamb, Laster, Laughlin,
Leftwich, Lerblance,
Mazzei, Morgan, Myers,
Nichols, Paddack, Rabon,
Reynolds, Rice, Riley,
Schulz, Sparks, Sweeden,
Sykes, Wilcoxson,
Williamson, Wilson and
Wyrick of the Senate

and

Lamons of the House

16 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the importance of
17 finding the cause and cure for multiple sclerosis;
18 expressing appreciation to the Oklahoma Chapter of
19 the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for its work;
20 proclaiming March 2008 "Multiple Sclerosis Awareness
21 Month"; and directing distribution.

22 WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis (MS) is a neurological disease of
23 the central nervous system, affecting an estimated 400,000 Americans
24 across this country. Nationwide, nearly 200 new cases of multiple
sclerosis are being diagnosed each week. Multiple sclerosis
generally strikes young adults aged 20 through 40 years, attacking

1 | them in the prime of their lives. Some of these young adults
2 | diagnosed with multiple sclerosis experience tremendous suffering
3 | and pain, leading to total paralysis in some cases. The cause and
4 | cure for this debilitating disease remain unknown; and

5 | WHEREAS, the estimated annual economic impact of MS is \$23
6 | billion and the annual economic impact of MS on a family is \$59,000.
7 | MS may cost an individual an estimated \$22,000 annually on lost
8 | wages, and the cost of health care for an individual is estimated
9 | annually at \$21,500. The need for accessible housing and home
10 | modifications cost people with MS over half a billion dollars a
11 | year; and

12 | WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis
13 | Society reports that in our state more than 21,000 people are
14 | affected directly or indirectly by this devastating disease. The
15 | Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has been
16 | committed throughout the years to heightened public knowledge and
17 | insight about this devastating and sometimes crippling disease.
18 | This dedicated Oklahoma Chapter is currently planning several major
19 | statewide fund-raisers and educational programs, in order to raise
20 | awareness about the effects of multiple sclerosis. Multiple
21 | Sclerosis Walks are scheduled this year in Lawton on March 29, in
22 | Oklahoma City on April 12, in Tulsa on April 19, and in Ponca City
23 | on May 3. The Women Against Multiple Sclerosis (WAMS) Luncheon is
24 | scheduled for April 16 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage

1 Museum in Oklahoma City. Last year in Oklahoma more than \$1.5
2 million was raised to find the cure of MS and develop effective
3 treatments for the disease, as well as provide a wide range of
4 client programs to improve the lives of the 3,000 individuals living
5 with MS in our state. Finding the cause of and developing a method
6 of prevention for multiple sclerosis is an important task that all
7 Americans and Oklahomans should support. The National Multiple
8 Sclerosis Society has declared March 10-17, 2008, as "MS Awareness
9 Week".

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION
11 OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
12 CONCURRING THEREIN:

13 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature recognizes the importance of
14 finding the cause and cure for multiple sclerosis, a terribly
15 perplexing and painful disease which affects hundreds of thousands
16 of Americans, including many Oklahomans.

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

22 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature proclaims March 2008
23 "Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month" in the State of Oklahoma and
24

1 encourages the citizens of this great state to join in the fight to
2 end this devastating disease.

3 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Patrick Evans,
4 Chair of Government Relations, Oklahoma Chapter of the National
5 Multiple Sclerosis Society; Paula Cortner, President, Oklahoma
6 Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society; and David
7 Carder, Chair of the Board, Oklahoma Chapter of the National
8 Multiple Sclerosis Society.

9 Adopted by the Senate the 12th day of March, 2008.

10
11 _____
12 Presiding Officer of the Senate

13 Adopted by the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
14 2008.

15
16 _____
17 Presiding Officer of the House
18 of Representatives