

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 1078

By: Pittman

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Concurrent Resolution declaring April 29, 2008, to
8 be Infant Mortality Awareness Day; expressing support
9 for Central Oklahoma Healthy Start Initiative; and
10 directing distribution.

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12 WHEREAS, Central Oklahoma Healthy Start Initiative/Healthy
13 Babies Begin Before Birth, a service site of Community Health
14 Centers Incorporated/dba Mary Mahoney Memorial Health Center, has
15 been designed by the National Healthy Start Association to reduce
16 the incidence of infant mortality; and

17 WHEREAS, Central Oklahoma Healthy Start Initiative is increasing
18 community awareness of the high rates of infant deaths in Oklahoma
19 County; and

20 WHEREAS, Central Oklahoma Healthy Start Initiative in Oklahoma
21 City, Oklahoma, is one of nearly 100 federal Healthy Start Projects
22 Nationwide; and

23 WHEREAS, each year approximately 400 babies born in Oklahoma
24 County do not live to see their first birthday; and

1 WHEREAS, the infant mortality rate for the State of Oklahoma in
2 2005 was 8.0 and the infant mortality rate for Oklahoma County was
3 9.7 per 1,000 live births; and

4 WHEREAS, the African-American infant mortality for the State of
5 Oklahoma in 2005 was 15.2 and the infant mortality rate in Oklahoma
6 County was 17.4 per 1,000 live births; and

7 WHEREAS, Central Oklahoma Healthy Start Initiative infant
8 mortality rate in the service area decreased from 12.5 in 2004 to
9 11.26 per 1,000 live births; and

10 WHEREAS, African-American babies are twice as likely to be born
11 with low birth weight or twice as likely to die in their first year
12 of life as other babies, and the infant mortality rate was highest
13 for African-American families in 2005; and

14 WHEREAS, Central Oklahoma Healthy Start Initiative decreased low
15 birth weight births from a rate of 9.78 in 2004 to 9.53 in 2005; and

16 WHEREAS, the Central Oklahoma Healthy Start Initiative program
17 provides direct outreach and recruitment, care management, health
18 education, depression screenings and referral services, and
19 interconceptual continuity for care through the second year of an
20 infant's life in the service area; and

21 WHEREAS, the Central Oklahoma Healthy Start Initiative program
22 focuses on: early entry into prenatal care; adequate health care for
23 women, infants, children, and families; fully immunized toddlers;

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1 nutrition; Sooner Care access; involvement of fathers; family
2 advocacy; and healthy families.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
4 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
5 CONCURRING THEREIN:

6 THAT April 29, 2008, is hereby declared Infant Mortality
7 Awareness Day in the State of Oklahoma.

8 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives supports healthy
9 start initiatives that give all babies a chance for a healthy life
10 and that improve the health and well-being of women, infants,
11 children, and their families.

12 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma
13 State Secretary of Health, Mrs. Rosalyn Johnson, Chief Executive
14 Officer of Community Health Centers, and LaWanna Porter, the Program
15 Coordinator of the Central Oklahoma Healthy Start Program.

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17 51-2-11144 SAB 04/16/08

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