

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 1056

By: Pittman

5
6
7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the eighth annual
9 observance of the National Black HIV/AIDS (Human
10 Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency
11 Syndrome) Awareness Day on February 7, 2008.

12
13 WHEREAS, information plays a vital role in preventing the spread
14 of HIV/AIDS in the African American community; and

15 WHEREAS, on February 7, 2008, the African American community
16 will observe the eighth annual National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness
17 Day; and

18 WHEREAS, this observation is an effort by the African American
19 community to further the nationwide mobilization effort to emphasize
20 the HIV/AIDS "State of Emergency" among African Americans; and

21 WHEREAS, the objectives of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
22 are to encourage individuals to get educated about HIV/AIDS, to get
23 tested, and to get involved in advocating for the resources to fight
24 the disease; and

1 WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
2 estimates that more than 211,000 Americans with AIDS have died since
3 the epidemic began, and over 1,000,000 Americans are estimated to be
4 living with HIV/AIDS; and

5 WHEREAS, the African American community accounts for only 13% of
6 the U.S. population; however, in 2005, more than half of all the
7 newly infected individuals with HIV/AIDS were African American; and

8 WHEREAS, AIDS is the leading cause of death for black women
9 between the ages of 24 and 34; and

10 WHEREAS, nearly 30% of people living with HIV in the United
11 States do not know they are infected; and

12 WHEREAS, the treatment for HIV/AIDS has improved dramatically
13 since 1981, adding years to the lives of those who are infected; and

14 WHEREAS, medical experts say a person can extend his or her life
15 as much as 25 years if there is an early diagnosis; and

16 WHEREAS, in order to stop the spread of this deadly disease,
17 African Americans must become more aware of the people suffering
18 from the disease in their communities.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
20 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
21 CONCURRING THEREIN:

22 THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes the observation of the
23 seventh annual National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day on February 7,
24

1 2008, and encourages the members of our state to join in the fight
2 against this devastating disease.

3

4 51-2-9878 SAB 02/06/08

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24