

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 51st Legislature (2007)

3 HOUSE

4 RESOLUTION 1040

By: Blackwell

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution declaring May 2007 to be Arthritis
8 Month; and urging citizens to support activities and
9 educational programming.

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11 WHEREAS, there are an estimated 46 million adult Americans who
12 have been diagnosed by their doctor to have arthritis. Of those, 19
13 million are limited in their activity. There are 797,000 adult
14 Oklahomans (30% of Oklahoma's population) who have doctor-diagnosed
15 arthritis and related conditions; and

16 WHEREAS, 70% of Oklahomans with arthritis are overweight or
17 obese; and

18 WHEREAS, arthritis costs Americans nearly \$86.2 billion (\$51.1
19 billion in direct costs and \$35.1 billion in indirect costs).
20 Oklahoma costs are estimated to be \$1.2 billion (\$726 million in
21 direct and \$499 million in indirect costs); and

22 WHEREAS, arthritis is the leading cause of physical disability;
23 and
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1 WHEREAS, evidence-based education such as the Arthritis Self-
2 Help Course have been shown to reduce doctor visits to arthritis
3 patients by 40% with an estimated savings of \$320 per person over
4 four years and decrease pain by 20%, improving the quality of life
5 of those impacted; and

6 WHEREAS, the Arthritis Foundation's mission is to improve lives
7 through leadership in the prevention, control, and cure of arthritis
8 and related diseases; and

9 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Department of Health's mission is to
10 protect and promote health of the citizens of Oklahoma, to prevent
11 disease and injury, and to assure the conditions by which our
12 citizens can be healthy; and

13 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Arthritis Network, established in 1999, is
14 a collaborative partnership among health professionals, people with
15 arthritis, business leaders, educators, and private/public
16 organizations working at a community level to reduce the burden of
17 arthritis and related conditions on Oklahomans; and

18 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Arthritis Network's mission is to increase
19 public awareness about arthritis and related conditions and to
20 maximize the quality of life for Oklahomans affected by these
21 conditions through the development of resources, promotion of access
22 to appropriate health care management, and the provision of
23 arthritis education; and

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1 WHEREAS, the month of May, designated as National Arthritis
2 Month, brings a focused effort urging people to take control of
3 their arthritis, take preventive measures against the painful and
4 disabling effects of arthritis, and to modify their lifestyles and
5 activities for optimum health.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

8 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives declares the month of
9 May 2007 as Arthritis Month.

10 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives urges all citizens to
11 join in the support of the Arthritis Foundation, Oklahoma State
12 Department of Health and the Oklahoma Arthritis Network and their
13 activities to educate about arthritis, provide services to those
14 affected by arthritis, and implement programs to reduce the
15 prevalence of arthritis in our state.

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