

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT  
4 RESOLUTION 1034

By: Terrill

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Concurrent Resolution relating to public health and  
8 safety; proclaiming the month of May as Lupus  
9 Awareness Month; urging citizens to join with the  
10 Oklahoma Chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America  
in supporting programs of research, education, and  
community service.

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14 WHEREAS, each year, the Lupus Foundation of America designates  
15 May as National Lupus Awareness Month to show support for the  
16 estimated 1.5 million Americans who have lupus; and

17 WHEREAS, lupus is an acute and chronic autoimmune disease in  
18 which the immune system is unbalanced, causing inflammation and  
19 tissue damage to virtually every organ system in the body; and

20 WHEREAS, lupus can affect any part of the body, including the  
21 skin, lungs, heart, kidneys, and brain. No organ is spared. The  
22 disease can cause seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages,  
23 and organ failure; and  
24

1       WHEREAS, while lupus strikes mostly women of childbearing age,  
2 no one is safe from lupus. African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos,  
3 Asians, and Native Americans are two to three times more likely to  
4 develop lupus, a disparity that remains unexplained; and

5       WHEREAS, lupus can be particularly difficult to diagnose because  
6 its symptoms are similar to those of many other illnesses, and major  
7 gaps exist in understanding the causes and consequences of lupus.  
8 More than half of all people with lupus take four or more years and  
9 visit three or more doctors before obtaining a correct diagnosis;  
10 and

11       WHEREAS, there have been no new drugs approved by the U.S. Food  
12 and Drug Administration specifically for lupus in fifty years, and  
13 current treatments for the disease can have damaging side effects;  
14 and

15       WHEREAS, 25,000 Oklahomans are affected by lupus.

16       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
17 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE  
18 CONCURRING THEREIN:

19       THAT the Oklahoma Legislature proclaims the month of May as  
20 Lupus Awareness Month in Oklahoma.

21       THAT the Oklahoma Legislature urges each of our citizens to  
22 observe this month by educating themselves on the symptoms and  
23 impact of lupus and join with the Oklahoma Chapter of the Lupus  
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1 Foundation of America in supporting programs of research, education,  
2 and community service.

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