

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature (2010)

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT  
4 RESOLUTION 1055

By: Lamons

5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the importance of  
8 finding the cause and cure for multiple sclerosis;  
9 expressing appreciation to the Oklahoma Chapter of  
10 the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for its work;  
11 proclaiming March 2010 as Multiple Sclerosis  
12 Awareness Month; and providing for distribution.

13 WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis is a neurological disease of the  
14 central nervous system affecting an estimated 400,000 Americans  
15 across this county; and

16 WHEREAS, nearly 200 new cases of multiple sclerosis are being  
17 diagnosed each week nationwide; and

18 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis  
19 Society reports that in our state more than 21,000 people are  
20 affected by this devastating disease; and

21 WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis generally strikes young adults aged  
22 20 through 40, attacking them in the prime of their lives; and  
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1       WHEREAS, some of these young adults diagnosed with multiple  
2 sclerosis experience tremendous suffering and pain leading to total  
3 paralysis in some cases; and

4       WHEREAS, the cause and cure for this debilitating disease remain  
5 unknown; and

6       WHEREAS, the estimated annual economic impact of multiple  
7 sclerosis is \$23 billion; and

8       WHEREAS, the estimated annual economic impact of multiple  
9 sclerosis on a family is \$59,000; and

10       WHEREAS, the need for accessible housing and home modifications  
11 cost people with multiple sclerosis over a half-billion dollars a  
12 year; and

13       WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis may cost an individual at least an  
14 estimated \$22,000 annually on lost wages; and

15       WHEREAS, the cost of health care for an individual is estimated  
16 annually at \$21,500; and

17       WHEREAS, the cost of disease-modifying drugs averages \$3,500 per  
18 month; and

19       WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis  
20 Society has been committed throughout the years to heightening  
21 public knowledge and insight about this devastating and sometimes  
22 crippling disease; and

23       WHEREAS, this dedicated Oklahoma Chapter is currently planning  
24 several major statewide fundraisers and educational programs in

1 order to raise awareness about the effects of multiple sclerosis;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Multiple Sclerosis Walks are scheduled this year in  
4 Lawton on April 10, in Tulsa on April 24, in Oklahoma City on May 1,  
5 in Ardmore on May 22, and in Ponca City on May 23; and

6 WHEREAS, the Women Against Multiple Sclerosis (WAMS) Luncheon is  
7 scheduled for April 21 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage  
8 Museum in Oklahoma City; and

9 WHEREAS, the 25th Annual Bike Multiple Sclerosis Oklahoma will  
10 be held on Route 66 between Tulsa to Oklahoma City on September 25 -  
11 26, 2010; and

12 WHEREAS, last year in Oklahoma more than \$1.4 million was raised  
13 to find the cure for multiple sclerosis and develop effective  
14 treatments for the disease, as well as provide a wide range of  
15 client programs to improve the lives of 3,000 individuals living  
16 with multiple sclerosis in our state; and

17 WHEREAS, finding the cause and developing a method of prevention  
18 for multiple sclerosis is an important task that all Americans and  
19 Oklahomans should support; and

20 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis  
21 Society will host its day at the Capitol on March 23, 2010.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
23 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE  
24 CONCURRING THEREIN:

1        THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes the importance of  
2 finding the cause and cure for multiple sclerosis, a terribly  
3 perplexing and painful disease, which affects hundreds of thousands  
4 of Americans, including many Oklahomans.

5        THAT the Oklahoma Legislature expresses its appreciation and  
6 admiration for the major work that the Oklahoma Chapter of the  
7 National Multiple Sclerosis Society has done over the years to  
8 heighten the knowledge and insight of the public about this  
9 debilitating disease.

10        THAT the Oklahoma Legislature proclaims March 2010 as "Multiple  
11 Sclerosis Awareness Month" and encourages the citizens of this great  
12 state to join in the fight to end this devastating disease.

13        THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to George Black,  
14 Chair of Government Relations, Oklahoma Chapter of the National  
15 Multiple Sclerosis Society; Paula Cortner, President, Oklahoma  
16 Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society; and Patrick  
17 Evans, Chairman of the Board, Oklahoma Chapter of the National  
18 Multiple Sclerosis Society.

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20        52-2-10305        AM        03/15/10

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