

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 CONCURRENT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 1026

By: McDaniel (Jeannie), Armes, Banz,
Bennett, Billy, Blackwell, Brown,
Brumbaugh, Cannaday, Casey, Christian,
Cockroft, Condit, Coody, Cooksey, Cox,
Dank, Denney, Derby, DeWitt, Dorman,
Enns, Faught, Fourkiller, Glenn, Grau,
Hall, Hamilton, Hardin, Hickman,
Hilliard, Holland, Hoskin, Inman,
Jackson, Johnson, Jordan, Joyner, Kern,
Key, Kirby, Kouplen, Liebmann,
Lockhart, Martin (Scott), Martin
(Steve), McCullough, McDaniel (Curtis)
McDaniel (Randy), McNiel, McPeak,
Moore, Morgan, Morrissette, Mulready,
Murphey, Nelson, Newell, Nollan,
Ortega, Osborn, Ownbey, Peters,
Peterson, Pittman, Proctor, Pruett,
Quinn, Renegar, Reynolds, Richardson,
Ritze, Roan, Roberts (Dustin), Roberts
(Sean), Rousselot, Russ, Sanders,
Schwartz, Scott, Sears, Shannon,
Shelton, Sherrer, Shoemake, Shumate,
Steele, Stiles, Terrill, Thomsen,
Tibbs, Trebilcock, Vaughan, Virgin,
Walker, Watson, Wesselhoft, Williams
and Wright of the House

and

Eason McIntyre of the Senate

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the importance of
finding the cause and cure for multiple sclerosis;
stating belief that all Americans and Oklahomans
should support finding the cause and developing a
method of prevention of multiple sclerosis;
expressing appreciation to the Oklahoma Chapter of
the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for its work;
proclaiming March 2012 as Multiple Sclerosis
Awareness Month; and directing distribution.

1 WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis (MS) is a neurological disease of
2 the central nervous system, affecting an estimated 400,000 Americans
3 across this country. Nationwide, nearly 200 new cases of multiple
4 sclerosis are being diagnosed each week. Multiple sclerosis
5 generally strikes young adults aged 20 through 40 years, but can
6 begin in childhood, attacking them in the prime of their lives.
7 Some of these young adults diagnosed with multiple sclerosis
8 experience tremendous suffering and pain, which leads to total
9 paralysis in some cases. The cause and cure for this debilitating
10 disease remain unknown; and

11 WHEREAS, the estimated annual economic impact of MS is \$23
12 billion and the annual economic impact of MS on a family is \$64,000.
13 MS may cost an individual an estimated \$27,000 annually in lost
14 wages, and the cost of health care for an individual is estimated
15 annually at \$39,000. The need for accessible housing and home
16 modifications costs people with MS over one-half billion dollars a
17 year; and

18 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis
19 Society reports that in our state more than 24,000 people are
20 affected directly or indirectly by this devastating disease. The
21 Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has been
22 committed throughout the years to heighten public knowledge and
23 insight about this devastating and sometimes crippling disease; and

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1 WHEREAS, the MS Center of Excellence has opened in the heart of
2 the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation's research tower and
3 providing world-class care while searching for the cause of and
4 developing a method of prevention for multiple sclerosis are central
5 to their mission; and

6 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis
7 Society annually plans major statewide fundraisers and educational
8 programs to raise awareness, provide services and support research
9 efforts in our state. MS Walks are scheduled this year in Lawton on
10 April 14, in Tulsa on April 21, in Oklahoma City on May 6, and in
11 Ardmore on May 19. Bike MS: The Mother Road Ride, kicks off in
12 Tulsa and culminates in Oklahoma City on September 16. Last year,
13 Oklahomans raised more than \$1.5 million to fund research and the
14 programs and services of the Oklahoma Chapter of the National
15 Multiple Sclerosis Society.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
17 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 53RD OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
18 CONCURRING THEREIN:

19 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature recognizes the importance of
20 research in finding the cause and cure for multiple sclerosis, a
21 terribly perplexing and painful disease which affects thousands of
22 Oklahomans, and has worked with the Oklahoma Chapter of the National
23 Multiple Sclerosis Society by passing legislation that created a tax
24

1 check-off box on the Oklahoma State Income Tax form that raised more
2 than \$7,000 in its first year.

3 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature believes that finding the
4 cause of and developing a method of prevention for multiple
5 sclerosis are important tasks that all Americans and Oklahomans
6 should support.

7 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature expresses its appreciation
8 and admiration for the work that the Oklahoma Chapter of the
9 National Multiple Sclerosis Society has done over the years to
10 heighten the public's knowledge and insight about MS and their long
11 history of serving and advocating on behalf of Oklahoma citizens who
12 live daily with this debilitating disease.

13 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature hereby proclaims March 2012
14 as "Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month" in the State of Oklahoma and
15 encourages the citizens of this great state to join in the fight to
16 stop this disease.

17 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Patti Barker,
18 Board member of the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Multiple
19 Sclerosis Society.

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