

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

4 HOUSE
5 RESOLUTION 1027

By: Echols, Christian, Moore,
Bennett, Cooksey and Dorman

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9 AS INTRODUCED

10 A Resolution declaring May 16, 2013, as Lupus
11 Advocacy Day and May 2013 as Lupus Awareness Month in
12 Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

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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 two million Americans, including approximately 50,000
17 Oklahomans, who have Lupus; and

18 WHEREAS, more women die each year from Lupus-related symptoms
19 than of breast cancer; and medical research efforts into Lupus and
20 the discovery of safer, more effective treatments for Lupus patients
21 are underfunded in comparison with diseases of comparable magnitude
22 and severity; and

1 WHEREAS, Lupus is an acute and chronic autoimmune disease in
2 which the immune system is unbalanced, causing inflammation and
3 tissue damage to virtually every organ system in the body; and

4 WHEREAS, Lupus can affect any part of the body, including the
5 skin, lungs, heart, kidneys and brain; no organ is spared. The
6 disease can cause seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages,
7 organ failures and, in some cases, death; and

8 WHEREAS, while Lupus can strike women, men, and children of all
9 ages, 90 percent of individuals diagnosed with the disease are women
10 mostly of childbearing age. No one is safe from Lupus; African
11 Americans, Native Americans, Hispanic/Latino Americans and Asian
12 Americans are two to three times more likely to develop Lupus, a
13 disparity that remains unexplained; and

14 WHEREAS, Lupus can be particularly difficult to diagnose because
15 its symptoms are similar to those of many other illnesses, and major
16 gaps exist in understanding the causes and consequences of Lupus;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, the Lupus Foundation of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma
19 Medical Research Foundation in Oklahoma City have distinguished
20 themselves as state and national leaders in Lupus awareness,
21 education, outreach, referral, research and treatment.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
23 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 54TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

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1 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives declares May 16,
2 2013, as Lupus Advocacy Day and May 2013 as Lupus Awareness Month in
3 Oklahoma.

4 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma
5 Chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America.

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7 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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