

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

3 HOUSE
4 RESOLUTION 1027

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

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8 AS INTRODUCED

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

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13 WHEREAS, each year the Lupus Foundation of America designates
14 May as National Lupus Awareness Month to show support for the
15 estimated two million Americans, including approximately 50,000
16 Oklahomans, who have Lupus; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

21 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives declares May 16,
22 2013, as Lupus Advocacy Day and May 2013 as Lupus Awareness Month in
23 Oklahoma.

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

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