

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 SENATE
4 RESOLUTION 35

By: Shortey

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

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

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

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

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

23 WHEREAS, Lupus can affect any part of the body, including the
24 skin, lungs, heart, kidneys and brain; no organ is spared. The

1 disease can cause seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages,
2 organ failures and, in some cases, death; and

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

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

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

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
18 OF THE 54TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

19 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate declares May 16, 2013, as Lupus
20 Advocacy Day and May 2013 as Lupus Awareness Month in Oklahoma.

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

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