

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

3 HOUSE  
4 RESOLUTION 1074

By: Ritze

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6  
7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Resolution stating certain beliefs regarding  
9 meningococcal disease; and urging certain groups to  
10 work together to increase education and awareness of  
11 meningococcal disease.

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13 WHEREAS, in the United States, there are approximately 1,000 to  
14 1,200 cases of meningococcal disease that occur each year; and

15 WHEREAS, 10 to 15 percent of infected individuals will die,  
16 while 11 to 19 percent of those who live will suffer from serious  
17 morbidity, including loss of limbs and impacts to the nervous  
18 system; and

19 WHEREAS, young adults between the ages of 16 and 21 are some of  
20 the most commonly impacted by this disease; and

21 WHEREAS, there are different strains or serogroups of the  
22 bacteria causing meningitis, with serogroups B, C and Y accounting  
23 for most meningococcal diseases in the United States; and  
24

1           WHEREAS, there have been several recent outbreaks of serogroup  
2 B meningococcal disease on college campuses, with some cases  
3 resulting in death; and

4           WHEREAS, there are vaccines that help provide protection  
5 against all three serogroups (B, C and Y) commonly seen in the  
6 United States; and

7           WHEREAS, vaccination for serogroups A, C, W and Y is routinely  
8 recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

9           WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's  
10 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends that  
11 decisions to vaccinate adolescents and young adults 16 through 23  
12 years of age against serogroup B meningococcal disease should be  
13 made at the individual level with healthcare providers; and

14           WHEREAS, it is critical that students, parents, educators and  
15 healthcare providers understand the dangers of meningitis B and are  
16 aware that a vaccine is available to prevent disease resulting from  
17 this serogroup.

18           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
19 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

20           THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives believes the recent  
21 incidences of meningococcal disease serve as a reminder of the  
22 critical role vaccinations play in helping to prevent this  
23 devastating illness; and

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1            THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives believes it is  
2 important for all private and public high-school- and college-age  
3 students and their parents to be informed about meningococcal  
4 disease and understand the different disease serogroups, symptoms,  
5 risks and treatment; and

6            THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives urges the medical  
7 community, the educational system, parents and advocates to work  
8 together to increase education and awareness of meningococcal  
9 disease in order to protect the health of high school and college  
10 students who are at higher risk of contracting this debilitating and  
11 life-altering disease.

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13            55-2-9953            AM            05/10/16