

# Resolution

ENROLLED SENATE  
RESOLUTION NO. 16

By: David, Allen, Bass,  
Bergstrom, Bice, Boggs,  
Brecheen, Brown, Dahm,  
Daniels, Dossett, Dugger,  
Fields, Floyd, Fry,  
Griffin, Holt, Jech, Kidd,  
Leewright, Loveless,  
Marlatt, Matthews,  
McCortney, Newberry,  
Newhouse, Paxton, Pederson,  
Pemberton, Pittman, Pugh,  
Quinn, Rader, Schulz,  
Scott, Sharp, Shaw, Silk,  
Simpson, Smalley, Sparks,  
Standridge, Stanislawski,  
Sykes, Thompson, Treat and  
Yen

A Resolution proclaiming April 12, 2017, as Rural  
Healthcare Day at the Capitol; commending Project  
ECHO; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, 74 out of 77 Oklahoma counties are federally designated  
primary care health professional shortage areas; and

WHEREAS, 58.6 percent of Oklahomans reside in primary care  
health professional shortage areas; and

WHEREAS, physician shortages negatively impact access and  
quality of care in rural communities; and

WHEREAS, 55 percent of rural primary care physicians are 55  
years or older; 27 percent are 65 years or older; and

WHEREAS, rural communities will continue to face increasing challenges in recruiting and retaining physicians; and

WHEREAS, to address these rural health critical challenges, Oklahoma State University, Center for Health Sciences' has launched Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes); and

WHEREAS, Project ECHO is a collaborative model of medical education and care management that empowers clinicians in rural and underserved communities to provide specialty care to more people right where they live; and

WHEREAS, Project ECHO dramatically increases access to specialty treatment in rural and underserved areas by providing front-line clinicians with the knowledge and support they need to manage patients with complex conditions; and

WHEREAS, the heart of the ECHO model™ is its hub-and-spoke knowledge-sharing networks, led by expert teams who use multi-point videoconferencing to conduct virtual clinics with community providers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 56TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate proclaims April 12, 2017, as Rural Healthcare Day at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences' Project ECHO for its innovative and collaborative model of healthcare delivery that empowers clinicians in rural and underserved communities to provide specialty care to more people right where they live.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to OSU President Burns Hargis; Dr. Kayse Shrum, DO, President of the OSU Center for Health Sciences and Dean of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine and Jerry Hudson, Chairman of the OSU Medical Authority.

Adopted by the Senate the 12th day of April, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.  
By: \_\_\_\_\_