

# Resolution

ENROLLED HOUSE

RESOLUTION NO. 1013

By: Osborn (Leslie)

A Resolution proclaiming April 12, 2017, Rural Health Care Day at the Oklahoma State Capitol; commending the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences Project ECHO for its service to rural and underserved communities.

WHEREAS, a clear majority of Oklahoma counties are federally designated primary care health professional shortage areas, with 75 out of 77 counties falling into that designation; and

WHEREAS, 58.6% 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% of rural primary care physicians are 55 years of age or older and 27% are 65 years of age or older; and

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

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

WHEREAS, Project ECHO helps primary care doctors, nurses and other clinicians to learn to provide excellent specialty care to patients in their own communities.

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

THAT April 12, 2017, is hereby proclaimed Rural Health Care Day at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

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

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 12th day of April, 2017.

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Presiding Officer of the House of  
Representatives

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

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