

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

4 HOUSE
5 RESOLUTION 1013

By: Osborn (Leslie)

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8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Resolution proclaiming April 13, 2017, Rural Health
10 Care Day at the Oklahoma State Capitol; commending
11 the Oklahoma State University Center for Health
12 Sciences Project ECHO for its service to rural and
13 underserved communities.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

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

18 WHEREAS, 58.6% of Oklahomans reside in primary care health
19 professional shortage areas; and

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

22 WHEREAS, 55% of rural primary care physicians are 55 years of
23 age or older and 27% are 65 years of age or older; and
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1 WHEREAS, rural communities will continue to face increasing
2 challenges in recruiting and retaining physicians; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 THAT April 13, 2017, is hereby proclaimed Rural Health Care Day
2 at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

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

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9 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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