

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

3 SENATE
4 RESOLUTION 16

By: David

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6 AS INTRODUCED

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

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

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

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

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

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

21 WHEREAS, to address these rural health critical challenges,
22 Oklahoma State University, Center for Health Sciences' has launched
23 Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes); and
24

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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