

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 56th Legislature (2018)

HOUSE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION 1014

By: Munson of the House

and

Yen of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution increasing awareness of  
Alzheimer's disease and other dementias; urging the  
State Department of Health to designate Alzheimer's  
disease and other dementias as a public health issue;  
and providing for distribution.

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Oklahoma Legislature to  
increase awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias,  
address cognitive impairment, promote brain health, and meet the  
needs of caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease, which currently has no cure, is  
the sixth leading cause of death in adults age eighteen or older in  
the United States; and

WHEREAS, with no known way to slow or prevent Alzheimer's  
disease, essential public health services of early detection, risk

1 reduction, and surveillance are necessary to protect and improve the  
2 health at a population level; and

3 WHEREAS, in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and  
4 Prevention (CDC), the State of Oklahoma annually conducts the  
5 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey to gather  
6 statewide public health data; and

7 WHEREAS, in the 2015 BRFSS survey, 13.6 percent - one in seven -  
8 Oklahomans age 45 and older reported an increase in confusion or  
9 worsening memory loss and over half of them (55.7 percent) had not  
10 discussed these cognitive concerns with a health care provider; and

11 WHEREAS, caregiving for individuals with Alzheimer's disease  
12 often takes an enormous toll on family members; caregivers  
13 themselves often suffer more stress, depression, and health problems  
14 than caregivers of people with other illnesses; and

15 WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes the important role  
16 the State Department of Health plays in promoting and encouraging  
17 healthy behaviors among the general public, increasing early  
18 detection and diagnosis of disease and disability, reducing risk of  
19 future injury and illness, educating the health care workforce, and  
20 monitoring the health of the state.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
22 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 56TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE  
23 CONCURRING THEREIN:

1        THAT the Oklahoma Legislature urges the Commissioner of the  
2 State Department of Health to designate Alzheimer's disease and  
3 other dementias as a public health issue.

4        THAT a copy of this concurrent resolution be distributed to the  
5 Commissioner of the State Department of Health.

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