

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

HOUSE

RESOLUTION 1013

By: Osborn (Leslie)

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution proclaiming April 13, 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 THAT April 13, 2017, is hereby proclaimed Rural Health Care Day
23 at the Oklahoma State Capitol.
24

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

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7 56-1-7502 SD 04/11/17