

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

4 HOUSE
5 RESOLUTION 1049

By: Bush

6
7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Resolution designating April 7, 2022, as ACEs and
9 PACEs Awareness Day.

10
11 WHEREAS, the landmark Adverse Childhood Experiences Study from
12 the late 1990s brought attention to the powerful impact that
13 negative childhood experiences have on future health and functioning
14 and demonstrates the importance of gathering information early in
15 the lives of children and their families and designing early
16 intervention programs that target abuse and neglect; and

17 WHEREAS, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are stressful or
18 traumatic experiences that include abuse, neglect, and household
19 instability and are recognized as a proxy for toxic stress, which
20 can affect brain and body development; and

21 WHEREAS, ACEs are determinants of major public health problems
22 in Oklahoma, such as heart disease, substance abuse, and mental
23 illness. Detrimental effects can be buffered by building resiliency
24

1 and promoting protective and compensatory experiences (PACEs) in a
2 child's life through early intervention; and

3 WHEREAS, the conservative annual cost of ACEs nationally is
4 estimated to be Seven Hundred Fifty Billion Dollars
5 (\$750,000,000,000.00); and

6 WHEREAS, at least twenty-five percent (25%) of Oklahoma's
7 children have experienced two (2) or more ACEs and one (1) in six
8 (6) adults has experienced four (4) or more ACEs; and

9 WHEREAS, trauma-informed care is an approach that can bring
10 greater understanding and more effective ways to prevent, identify,
11 and support and serve children, adults, families, and communities
12 affected by ACEs, trauma, adversity, and toxic stress; and

13 WHEREAS, research has identified at least ten (10) PACEs
14 including having a caring, competent adult in an individual's life,
15 having a hobby, participating in after-school activities and
16 organized sports, volunteering and helping others, having a safe and
17 clean home, having enough food to eat, and having access to
18 appropriate school resources and academic support needed to learn;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, trauma-informed care is being promoted and established
21 in many of Oklahoma's counties and communities, in both urban and
22 rural communities. By adopting trauma-informed approaches that build
23 resilience and promote PACEs in all public, private, and charter
24 schools, workplaces, communities, and government programs, training

1 and licensing can aid in preventing mental, emotional, physical, and
2 social issues for people impacted by ACEs, trauma, adversity, and
3 toxic stress; and

4 WHEREAS, in 2018, the Oklahoma Legislature unanimously passed
5 Senate Bill 1517 to establish the Trauma Informed Task Force to
6 identify, evaluate, recommend, maintain, and update a set of best
7 practices with respect to children and youth and their families, as
8 appropriate, who have experienced or are at risk of experiencing
9 trauma, especially ACEs.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
11 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 58TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

12 THAT the Legislature designate Thursday, April 7, 2022, as "ACEs
13 and PACEs Awareness Day" in Oklahoma, in conjunction with Child
14 Abuse Prevention Month, to highlight the impact of trauma and the
15 importance of prevention and community resilience, through trauma-
16 informed care, to reduce children's exposure to ACEs, address the
17 facts of those experiences, and build and promote resilience and
18 protective factors, while investing in preventive health care and
19 mental health and wellness interventions.

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21 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.
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