

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

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

3 HOUSE
4 RESOLUTION 1049

By: Bush

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

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

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

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

20 WHEREAS, ACEs are determinants of major public health problems
21 in Oklahoma, such as heart disease, substance abuse, and mental
22 illness. Detrimental effects can be buffered by building resiliency
23 and promoting protective and compensatory experiences (PACEs) in a
24 child's life through early intervention; and

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

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

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

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

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

1 social issues for people impacted by ACEs, trauma, adversity, and
2 toxic stress; and

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

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

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

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20 58-2-10866 CMA 03/08/22
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