

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

HOUSE
RESOLUTION 1020

By: West (Tammy)

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution recognizing September 21 through September 28, 2025 as Frontotemporal Dementia Awareness Week; and expressing the importance of Frontotemporal Dementia Awareness Week.

WHEREAS, frontotemporal dementia (FTD) is a form of dementia caused by progressive nerve cell loss in the brain's frontal and temporal lobes, which variably causes deterioration in behavior, personality, and/or difficulty with producing or comprehending language; and

WHEREAS, according to the Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration, FTD is frequently misdiagnosed as Alzheimer's, depression, Parkinson's disease, or a psychiatric condition. On average, it currently takes 3.6 years to get an accurate diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, most FTD cases occur between the ages of 45 and 64. Therefore, FTD has a potentially substantially greater impact on work, family, and finances; and

1 WHEREAS, the economic burden of FTD is estimated to be \$120,000
2 per year per family; and

3 WHEREAS, FTD may affect a person's ability to express emotions
4 and to show affection and empathy; and

5 WHEREAS, in the behavioral variant of FTD, a person's
6 personality may be significantly changed and this could manifest as
7 impaired judgment and responding to social situations in a way that
8 may be considered inappropriate; and

9 WHEREAS, in the language variants of FTD (primary progressive
10 aphasia), a person may have difficulty producing speech and
11 understanding grammar, lose the meaning of words or become hesitant
12 in their speech, and may eventually become non-verbal; and

13 WHEREAS, today, there is no cure for FTD, and no current
14 treatments available to slow or stop the progression of the disease;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, the last week of September has been declared World
17 Frontotemporal Dementia Awareness Week to raise funds to improve
18 care and support options, support research for treatments and
19 ultimately a cure.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
21 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 60TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

22 THAT the last week of September 21-28, 2025, is hereby
23 recognized by the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the State of
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1 Oklahoma as Frontotemporal Dementia Awareness Week, in order to
2 raise public awareness about frontotemporal dementia.

3 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives acknowledges the
4 critical importance of frontotemporal dementia awareness to improve
5 brain health in the State of Oklahoma and for research to find a
6 treatment and possibly a cure.

7 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives supports raising
8 awareness of the consequences of undiagnosed and misdiagnosed
9 frontotemporal dementia and the need for appropriate care for
10 individuals with frontotemporal dementia.

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