

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

4 HOUSE
5 RESOLUTION 1027

 By: Echols

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8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Resolution declaring May 13, 2015, as Lupus
10 Advocacy Day and May 2015 as Lupus Awareness Month in
 Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

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14 WHEREAS, each year May is designated as National Lupus Awareness
15 Month to show support for the estimated two million Americans,
16 including approximately 50,000 Oklahomans, who have Lupus; and

17 WHEREAS, more women die each year from Lupus-related symptoms
18 than of breast cancer; and medical research efforts into Lupus and
19 the discovery of safer, more effective treatments for Lupus patients
20 are underfunded in comparison with diseases of comparable magnitude
21 and severity; and

22 WHEREAS, Lupus is an acute and chronic autoimmune disease in
23 which the immune system is unbalanced, causing inflammation and
24 tissue damage to virtually every organ system in the body; and

1 WHEREAS, Lupus can affect any part of the body, including the
2 skin, lungs, heart, kidneys and brain; and can cause seizures,
3 strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages, organ failures and, in some
4 cases, death; and

5 WHEREAS, while Lupus can strike people regardless of gender or
6 age, 90 percent of individuals diagnosed with the disease are women
7 mostly of childbearing age. African Americans, Native Americans,
8 Hispanic/Latino Americans and Asian Americans are two to three times
9 more likely to develop Lupus, a disparity that remains unexplained;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Lupus can be particularly difficult to diagnose because
12 its symptoms are similar to those of many other illnesses, and major
13 gaps exist in understanding the causes and consequences of Lupus;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the Lupus Foundation of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma
16 Medical Research Foundation in Oklahoma City have distinguished
17 themselves as state and national leaders in Lupus advocacy,
18 awareness, education, outreach, referral, support, research and
19 treatment.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
21 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

22 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives declares May 13,
23 2015, as Lupus Advocacy Day and May 2015 as Lupus Awareness Month in
24 Oklahoma.

1 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Lupus
2 Foundation of Oklahoma.

3
4 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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