

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

4 HOUSE
5 RESOLUTION 1076

By: Derby

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8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Resolution recognizing chronic pain and abuse of
10 pain medicine as serious health problems; encouraging
11 state agencies to implement certain recommendations;
12 encouraging patients and providers to follow
appropriate pain management; recognizing September as
Pain Awareness Month; and encouraging citizens to
become informed.

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15 WHEREAS, pain is a major public health problem and is the number
16 one reason Americans seek medical care; and

17 WHEREAS, according to the Institute of Medicine, over 100
18 million Americans live with chronic pain as a result of serious
19 illnesses and injuries; and

20 WHEREAS, chronic pain costs America up to \$635 billion a year in
21 added health costs and lost productivity, including billions of
22 dollars in state Medicaid costs; and

23 WHEREAS, significant barriers to adequate pain care exist and
24 millions of Americans get inadequate pain care; and

1 WHEREAS, increased awareness about the effects of chronic pain
2 results in better outcomes, increased access to efficient pain care
3 and empowerment and validation for those living with pain; and

4 WHEREAS, the 2011 report "Relieving Pain in America: A Blueprint
5 for Transforming Prevention, Care, Education and Research" by the
6 Institute of Medicine includes a number of recommendations to
7 improve pain care, education and research; and

8 WHEREAS, the report by the Institute of Medicine also found that
9 significant savings can be achieved through better treatment of
10 acute pain by reducing workers' compensation costs, lost tax revenue
11 and the economic burden of opioid abuse and misuse; and

12 WHEREAS, the use and misuse of prescription pain drugs and
13 opioids is a problem in Oklahoma that is increasing; and

14 WHEREAS, in 2012, Oklahoma tied Kentucky for the third highest
15 rate of painkillers prescribed; and

16 WHEREAS, according to the State Department of Health in 2014,
17 510 people in Oklahoma died from unintentional drug overdose; and

18 WHEREAS, new technologies are available that can protect the
19 integrity of pain medications by preventing their form from being
20 altered in a manner that would facilitate misuse or abuse of the
21 medications; and

22 WHEREAS, the introduction of technologies that deter abuse into
23 the pain medication area is of great potential significance to
24 Oklahoma as a method to support the continued access of patients to

1 these important medicines and to the general interests of Oklahoma
2 as a strategy to limit prescription opioid abuse problems.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
4 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

5 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives recognizes that
6 chronic pain is a serious health problem.

7 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives encourages the
8 appropriate agencies of state government to examine how the state
9 can improve the health and productivity of citizens and reduce
10 personal and government health expenditures by implementing the
11 recommendations made in the report "Relieving Pain in America: A
12 Blueprint for Transforming Prevention, Care, Education and Research"
13 by the Institute of Medicine.

14 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives recognizes that
15 prescription drug abuse of pain medications is a serious health
16 problem for the state.

17 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives encourages patients
18 and providers to follow appropriate pain management including the
19 use of nonpharmacological treatments, nonopioid medications and
20 abuse-deterrent medications when appropriate.

21 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives hereby recognizes
22 September as Pain Awareness Month and encourages all Oklahomans to
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1 become more informed and aware of the impacts of chronic pain and
2 avenues to prevent prescription opioid abuse.

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4 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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