Resolution

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 56

By: Griffin, Aldridge, Allen, Anderson, Ballenger, Barrington, Bass, Bingman, Boggs, Branan, Brecheen, Brinkley, Brooks, Brown, Burrage, Coates, Crain, Dahm, David, Ellis, Fields, Ford, Garrison, Halligan, Holt, Ivester, Johnson (Constance), Johnson (Rob), Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Mazzei, McAffrey, Newberry, Paddack, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Shumate, Simpson, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Treat and Wyrick

A Resolution proclaiming May 14, 2014, as Childhood Apraxia of Speech Day in Oklahoma; supporting the goals of Better Hearing and Speech Month; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) is a difficult, persistent and severe speech and communication disorder in children; and

WHEREAS, Childhood Apraxia of Speech causes children to have extreme difficulty planning and producing the precise, highly refined and specific series of movements of the tongue, lips, jaw and palate necessary for the production of proper speech. It is among the most severe of speech and communication problems in children; and

WHEREAS, the act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, those with apraxia endure a difficult and lengthy struggle. Although not life threatening, it is life altering as families must cope with the emotional, physical and financial challenges of having a child diagnosed with CAS. Additionally, without appropriate intervention, children with CAS are at high risk for secondary impacts to literacy and other school-related skills; and

WHEREAS, the Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association of North America (CASANA) encourages state insurance providers and schools to recognize the critical need to provide adequate speech therapy and other services in order to minimize the impact of this disorder so affected children can grow into productive, contributing adult citizens; and

WHEREAS, every child should be afforded their best opportunity to develop speech. With early intervention and appropriate therapy, most children with CAS will learn to communicate with their own voices. These children, as well as their families, deserve our highest respect for their effort, determination and resilience in the face of such obstacles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 54TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate proclaims May 14, 2014, as Childhood Apraxia of Speech Day in Oklahoma.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate supports the goals of Better Hearing and Speech Month.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association of North America (CASANA) and Daniele Harrell.

Adopted by the Senate the 14th day of May, 2014.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 15th day of May, 20 14, at 10:43 o'clock A. M.

By: Chris Benge