

Resolution

ENROLLED HOUSE

RESOLUTION NO. 1074

By: Ritze

A Resolution stating certain beliefs regarding meningococcal disease; and urging certain groups to work together to increase education and awareness of meningococcal disease.

WHEREAS, in the United States, there are approximately 1,000 to 1,200 cases of meningococcal disease that occur each year; and

WHEREAS, 10 to 15 percent of infected individuals will die, while 11 to 19 percent of those who live will suffer from serious morbidity, including loss of limbs and impacts to the nervous system; and

WHEREAS, young adults between the ages of 16 and 21 are some of the most commonly impacted by this disease; and

WHEREAS, there are different strains or serogroups of the bacteria causing meningitis, with serogroups B, C and Y accounting for most meningococcal diseases in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there have been several recent outbreaks of serogroup B meningococcal disease on college campuses, with some cases resulting in death; and

WHEREAS, there are vaccines that help provide protection against all three serogroups (B, C and Y) commonly seen in the United States; and

WHEREAS, vaccination for serogroups A, C, W and Y is routinely recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends that decisions to vaccinate adolescents and young adults 16 through 23 years of age against serogroup B meningococcal disease should be made at the individual level with healthcare providers; and

WHEREAS, it is critical that students, parents, educators and healthcare providers understand the dangers of meningitis B and are aware that a vaccine is available to prevent disease resulting from this serogroup.

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

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives believes the recent incidences of meningococcal disease serve as a reminder of the critical role vaccinations play in helping to prevent this devastating illness.

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives believes it is important for all private and public high-school- and college-age students and their parents to be informed about meningococcal disease and understand the different disease serogroups, symptoms, risks and treatment.

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives urges the medical community, the educational system, parents and advocates to work together to increase education and awareness of meningococcal disease in order to protect the health of high school and college students who are at higher risk of contracting this debilitating and life-altering disease.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 18th day of May, 2016.


Presiding Officer of the House of
Representatives

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 19th
day of May, 20 16, at 9:23 o'clock A. M.
By: Chris Renge