Resolution

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 61

By: Griffin, Allen, Anderson, Barrington, Bass, Bice, Bingman, Boggs, Brecheen, Brooks, Brown, Crain, Dahm, David, Dossett, Fields, Floyd, Ford, Fry, Garrison, Halligan, Holt, Jech, Jolley, Justice, Loveless, Marlatt, Matthews, Mazzei, Newberry, Paddack, Pittman, Quinn, Schulz, Sharp, Shaw, Shortey, Silk, Simpson, Smalley, Sparks, Standridge, Stanislawski, Sykes, Thompson, Treat, Wyrick and Yen

A Resolution recognizing September as Pain Awareness Month in Oklahoma; urging state agencies to examine ways to improve health and reduce expenditures; and encouraging patients and providers to follow appropriate pain management.

WHEREAS, pain is a major public health problem and is the top reason Americans seek medical care; and

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

WHEREAS, a 2011 report by the Institute of Medicine found that significant savings could be achieved through better treatment of acute and chronic pain; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, Oklahoma tied Kentucky for the third highest rate of painkillers prescribed; and, in 2014, 510 Oklahomans died from unintentional drug overdose; and

WHEREAS, new technologies are available that can protect the integrity of pain medications by preventing them from being misused or abused; and

WHEREAS, the introduction of pain medication abuse-deterrent technologies is of great potential significance to support continued patient access to these important medicines and to the general interests of Oklahoma as a strategy to limit prescription opioid abuse problems.

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

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate recognizes September as Pain Awareness Month in Oklahoma, and encourages all citizens to become more informed and aware of the impacts of chronic pain and avenues to prevent prescription opioid abuse.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate urges state agencies to examine how the state can improve the health and productivity of its citizens and reduce personal and government expenditures by implementing the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine's 2011 report: Relieving Pain in America.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate encourages patients and providers to follow appropriate pain management, including the use of non-pharmacological treatments, non-opioid medications and abuse deterrent medications when appropriate.

Adopted by the Senate the 18th day of May, 2016.

Eddie Fields
Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 18th day of May, 20 16, at 4:32 o'clock P. M.

By: Chris Benge