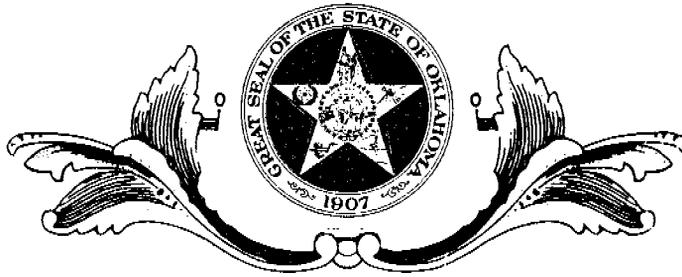


STATE OF OKLAHOMA



FILED
FEB 23 2011

OKLAHOMA SECRETARY
OF STATE

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

Whereas, there are nearly 7,000 diseases and conditions considered rare (each affecting fewer than 200,000 Americans) in the United States; and

Whereas, while each of these diseases may affect small numbers of people, rare diseases as a group affect almost 30 million Americans; and

Whereas, many rare diseases are serious and debilitating conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those affected; and

Whereas, while approximately 340 orphan drugs and biologics have been approved for the treatment of rare diseases affecting between 11 and 14 million people according to the Food and Drug Administration; and

Whereas, individuals and families affected by rare diseases often experience problems such as isolation, difficulty in obtaining an accurate and timely diagnosis, few treatment options, and problems related to accessing or being reimbursed for treatment; and

Whereas, some rare diseases are relatively well known, many others are not known at all by the public so that patients and their families must bear a large share of the burden for things such as raising funds for research; and

Whereas, thousands of residents of Oklahoma are among those affected by rare diseases since nearly one in ten Americans have rare diseases; and

Whereas, the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) is organizing a nationwide observance of Rare Disease Day on the last day in the month of February and patients, medical professionals, researchers, government officials, and companies developing treatments are joining together to focus attention on rare diseases as a public health issue;

Now, therefore, I, Mary Fallin, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim February 28th, 2011 as

"Rare Disease Day"

in the State of Oklahoma.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.



Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this 21st day of Feb. in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and eleven, and of the State of Oklahoma in the One hundred and third year.

Michelle R. Day
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

Mary Fallin
GOVERNOR

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