

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

3 HOUSE

4 RESOLUTION 1037

By: Roe and Stark

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7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Resolution proclaiming May 2020 to be Mental Health
9 Awareness Month in Oklahoma.

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11 WHEREAS, this year, National Mental Health Awareness Month
12 coincides with one of the most complex and challenging periods in
13 our Nation's recent history - combating the coronavirus pandemic.
14 Not only has the virus caused immense physical suffering and loss
15 for many people, it has also resulted in mental and emotional
16 hardship. The stress and worry over the health and safety of family
17 and friends, forced isolation and financial distress can all result
18 in anxiety, depression, substance misuse and abuse and, tragically,
19 even suicide. There is no question this is a difficult and
20 unprecedented time for Americans. Yet, we know that there are ways
21 to help people cope during these uncertain times, and we are
22 committed to caring for those in need;

23 WHEREAS, mental illness can affect anyone and can develop at any
24 time. Its effects spread well beyond the individual to family,

1 friends and coworkers. As a Nation, we must fight the stigmas
2 surrounding mental illness and empower those affected by emotional
3 distress and their loved ones to seek care. We also recommit to
4 strengthening our efforts to ensure every individual living with a
5 mental illness, including children and young adults, our Nation's
6 fastest-growing population diagnosed with behavioral, mental or
7 emotional issues, receives the care and treatment they need to enjoy
8 the blessings of a fulfilling and productive life; and

9 WHEREAS, no American should ever feel alone. Let us recommit to
10 lifting up our struggling friends, family members and neighbors with
11 the touch of humanity. There is always the promise of recovery,
12 healing and renewal.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
14 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 57TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

15 THAT May 2020 is hereby proclaimed to be Mental Health Awareness
16 Month in Oklahoma.

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18 57-2-11759 SH 05/11/20

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