

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

4 HOUSE
5 RESOLUTION 1020

By: West (Tammy)

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8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Resolution recognizing September 21 through
10 September 28, 2025 as Frontotemporal Dementia
11 Awareness Week; and expressing the importance of
12 Frontotemporal Dementia Awareness Week.

13 WHEREAS, frontotemporal dementia (FTD) is a form of dementia
14 caused by progressive nerve cell loss in the brain's frontal and
15 temporal lobes, which variably causes deterioration in behavior,
16 personality, and/or difficulty with producing or comprehending
17 language; and

18 WHEREAS, according to the Association for Frontotemporal
19 Degeneration, FTD is frequently misdiagnosed as Alzheimer's,
20 depression, Parkinson's disease, or a psychiatric condition. On
21 average, it currently takes 3.6 years to get an accurate diagnosis;
22 and

1 WHEREAS, most FTD cases occur between the ages of 45 and 64.
2 Therefore, FTD has a potentially substantially greater impact on
3 work, family, and finances; and

4 WHEREAS, the economic burden of FTD is estimated to be \$120,000
5 per year per family; and

6 WHEREAS, FTD may affect a person's ability to express emotions
7 and to show affection and empathy; and

8 WHEREAS, in the behavioral variant of FTD, a person's
9 personality may be significantly changed and this could manifest as
10 impaired judgment and responding to social situations in a way that
11 may be considered inappropriate; and

12 WHEREAS, in the language variants of FTD (primary progressive
13 aphasia), a person may have difficulty producing speech and
14 understanding grammar, lose the meaning of words or become hesitant
15 in their speech, and may eventually become non-verbal; and

16 WHEREAS, today, there is no cure for FTD, and no current
17 treatments available to slow or stop the progression of the disease;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, the last week of September has been declared World
20 Frontotemporal Dementia Awareness Week to raise funds to improve
21 care and support options, support research for treatments and
22 ultimately a cure.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
24 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 60TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

1 THAT the last week of September 21-28, 2025, is hereby
2 recognized by the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the State of
3 Oklahoma as Frontotemporal Dementia Awareness Week, in order to
4 raise public awareness about frontotemporal dementia.

5 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives acknowledges the
6 critical importance of frontotemporal dementia awareness to improve
7 brain health in the State of Oklahoma and for research to find a
8 treatment and possibly a cure.

9 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives supports raising
10 awareness of the consequences of undiagnosed and misdiagnosed
11 frontotemporal dementia and the need for appropriate care for
12 individuals with frontotemporal dementia.

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14 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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