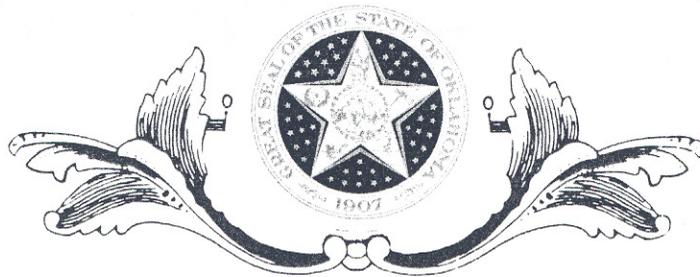


# STATE OF OKLAHOMA



## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

# Proclamation

Whereas, pain is one of our nation's most serious health problems with more than 50 million Americans living with chronic pain caused by disease or disorders and more that 25 million Americans that will suffer some type of acute pain; and

Whereas, while medical knowledge and technology exist to relieve or greatly ease pain, pain goes untreated, under-treated, or improperly treated when healthcare professionals do not have the knowledge to effectively treat pain; and

Whereas, people who suffer from pain are often stigmatized, marginalized, and/or not informed of their right to effective pain assessment and management, including those people at the end of life; and

Whereas, the people of Oklahoma deserve the most effective and appropriate treatment of pain; and

Whereas, the State Legislature and I recognize the issues concerning people in pain and pain management in Oklahoma with the formation of an Advisory Council on Pain Management; and

Whereas, Pain Relief Oklahoma (PROk) is a grass roots pain initiative for the state of Oklahoma, offering education and practical information to healthcare professionals and to consumers experiencing pain;

Now, Therefore, I, Brad Henry, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim September, 2004, as

**"Pain Awareness Month"**

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.



ATTEST:

M. Susan Savage  
SECRETARY OF STATE

Brad Henry  
GOVERNOR

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and four, and of the State of Oklahoma in the ninety-sixth year