



SR0986

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1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), known by
3 many as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive fatal
4 neurodegenerative disease in which a person's brain loses
5 connection with the muscles, slowly taking away their ability
6 to walk, talk, eat, and eventually breathe; and

7 WHEREAS, ALS has no cure, and every 90 minutes, someone is
8 diagnosed with ALS and someone passes away from ALS; on
9 average, patients diagnosed with ALS only survive two to five
10 years from the time of diagnosis; and

11 WHEREAS, People who have served in the military are more
12 likely to develop ALS and die from the disease than those with
13 no history of military service; and

14 WHEREAS, Securing access to new therapies, durable medical
15 equipment, and communication technologies is of vital
16 importance to people living with ALS; and

17 WHEREAS, Clinical trials play a pivotal role in evaluating
18 new treatments, enhancing quality of life, and fostering
19 assistive technologies for those living with ALS; and

20 WHEREAS, This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Ice

1 Bucket Challenge, and it is fitting to make a renewed
2 commitment to galvanize public awareness and support funding
3 leading to significant investments in ALS research; and

4 WHEREAS, The ALS Association, as the largest philanthropic
5 funder of ALS research globally, has committed over \$154
6 million to support more than 550 projects across the United
7 States and 18 other countries; and

8 WHEREAS, The ALS community and researchers remain
9 unwaveringly committed to accelerating the pace of discovery,
10 fueled by the hope that one day ALS will be a livable disease
11 for everyone, everywhere; and

12 WHEREAS, Observing ALS Awareness Month increases the
13 public's awareness of the dire circumstances faced by people
14 living with ALS, acknowledges the terrible impact this disease
15 has, not only on the person but on his or her family and the
16 community, and recognizes the research being done to eradicate
17 this disease; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare May 2024 as
20 ALS Awareness Month and urge all Americans to join in
21 supporting ALS research, advocating for increased funding, and
22 standing in solidarity with those affected by this relentless

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1 disease.