

2016 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 9

BY REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE

A RESOLUTION

To foster awareness about Alzheimer's disease and to recognize the month of June 2016 as "Go Purple Month".

WHEREAS, the national Alzheimer's Association has declared June 2016 to be Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States; more people die of Alzheimer's disease than breast and prostate cancer patients combined; and

WHEREAS, the Alzheimer's Association recognizes that everyone who has a brain is at risk of developing Alzheimer's, a progressive brain disease that has no cure and is not a normal part of the aging process; fewer than fifty percent of people with Alzheimer's disease report being told of their diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, more than fifteen million Americans provide unpaid care for individuals with Alzheimer's or some other form of dementia; healthcare costs for patients with Alzheimer's and other dementias could reach two hundred thirty-six billion dollars nationally in 2016; and

WHEREAS, in Louisiana, the Alzheimer's Association has estimated that there are as many as eighty-four thousand citizens aged sixty-five and older who suffer from the disease; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of Alzheimer's include difficulty remembering newly learned information; disorientation; mood and behavioral changes; deepening confusion about events, times, and places; unfounded suspicions about family, friends, and caregivers; and difficulty speaking, swallowing, and walking; and

WHEREAS, the color purple was selected to symbolize support for those who work with patients diagnosed with Alzheimer's and family and friends who are caregivers of Alzheimer's patients; and

WHEREAS, research is ongoing to uncover critical information for the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's and related dementias, and during the month of June, Louisiana citizens are encouraged to wear purple and take action to raise awareness of this deadly disease.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the month of June 2016 as "Go Purple Month" in solidarity with the Alzheimer's Association.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES