2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 177

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARLSON

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates May 2026 as ALS Awareness Month in Louisiana

A RESOLUTION

To designate May 2026 as ALS Awareness Month in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, commonly known as ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive fatal neurodegenerative disease in which a person's brain loses connection with their muscles, which slowly reduces a person's ability to walk, talk, eat, and eventually breathe; and

WHEREAS, thousands of new ALS cases are reported every year, and estimates show that, every ninety minutes, someone is diagnosed with ALS and someone passes away from ALS; on average, patients diagnosed with ALS survive only two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, the exact causes of ALS are unknown and there is no known cure for the disease; and

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the ALS Association is the largest philanthropic funder of ALS research globally and has committed more than one hundred fifty-four million dollars to support more than five hundred fifty projects across the United States and eighteen other countries; and

WHEREAS, the ALS Association is committed to making amyotrophic lateral sclerosis livable and curing the disease; ALS Awareness Month provides an opportunity to increase public awareness of the dire circumstances of people living with ALS, acknowledge the terrible impact the disease has on those individuals and their families, and support research to eradicate the disease.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate May 2026 as ALS Awareness Month in Louisiana and does hereby encourage the citizens of Louisiana to support ALS research, advocate for increased funding, and stand in solidarity with those affected by the disease.

DIGEST

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HR 177 Original 2026 Regular Session Carlson

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