



1 inevitable outcome of continued deterioration and death; and

2 WHEREAS, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS survive only two to five years  
3 from the time of diagnosis; and

4 WHEREAS, despite the catastrophic consequences of a diagnosis of ALS, the disease  
5 currently has no known cause, means of protection, or cure; and

6 WHEREAS, research indicates that military veterans are at a sixty percent greater  
7 risk of developing ALS than those who have not served in the military; and

8 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs has promulgated  
9 regulations to establish a presumption of service connection for ALS thereby presuming that  
10 the development of ALS was incurred or aggravated by a veteran's service in the military;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, a national ALS registry, administered by the Centers for Disease  
13 Control and Prevention, is currently identifying cases of ALS in the United States and may  
14 become the largest ALS research project ever undertaken; and

15 WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month increases the  
16 awareness of the circumstances of living with ALS and acknowledges the terrible impact this  
17 disease has, not only on the patient receiving such a diagnosis, but also on his family and  
18 community; and

19 WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month also increases  
20 awareness of research being done to eradicate this dire disease.

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
22 recognize May 2015 as "Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month".

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
24 memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to provide additional  
25 funding for research for the treatment and cure of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
27 secretary of the United States Senate, the clerk of the United States House of  
28 Representatives, and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States  
29 Congress.

