

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or ALS, better known
2 as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a fatal debilitating disease
3 characterized by the degeneration of motor nerve cells in the brain
4 and spinal cord; and

5 WHEREAS, The initial symptom of ALS is often weakness of the
6 skeletal muscles, especially those of the extremities; as ALS
7 progresses and muscle atrophy worsens, the patient experiences
8 difficulty swallowing, talking, and breathing; because ALS does not
9 commonly affect mental capacity, sufferers remain alert and aware
10 of their loss of motor control and the inevitable outcome of
11 continued deterioration; and

12 WHEREAS, ALS affects roughly 30,000 Americans, with slightly
13 more than 5,600 diagnosed each year; there is no known cause, means
14 of prevention, or cure, and on average, patients only survive two to
15 five years from the time of diagnosis; and

16 WHEREAS, Studies have indicated that military veterans are
17 approximately twice as likely to develop ALS as those who have not
18 served; in light of this finding, the Department of Veterans
19 Affairs implemented a presumption of service connection for ALS,
20 thereby concluding that the development of the disease could be
21 incurred or aggravated by a person's service in the military; and

22 WHEREAS, Through a number of initiatives, researchers are
23 investigating possible causes and treatments for ALS, and one
24 related endeavor is a national patient registry; administered by

1 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the registry is
2 currently identifying cases in the United States and may become the
3 single largest ALS research project ever undertaken; and

4 WHEREAS, During May 2013, health and advocacy organizations
5 nationwide are observing Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness
6 Month with a variety of activities to raise awareness of the
7 profound impact that ALS has on patients, their families, and their
8 communities and to recognize and support the important research
9 being conducted to end this devastating disease; now, therefore, be
10 it

11 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas
12 hereby designate May 2013 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
13 Awareness Month in Texas.

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Straus	M. Gonzalez of El Paso	Oliveira
Allen	N. Gonzalez of El Paso	Orr
Alonzo	Gooden	Otto
Alvarado	Guerra	Paddie
Anchia	Guillen	Parker
Anderson	Gutierrez	Patrick
Ashby	Harless	Perez
Aycock	Harper-Brown	Perry
Bell	Hernandez Luna	Phillips
Bohac	Herrero	Pickett
Bonnen of Brazoria	Hilderbran	Pitts
Bonnen of Galveston	Howard	Price
Branch	Huberty	Raney
Burkett	Hughes	Ratliff
Burnam	Hunter	Raymond
Button	Isaac	Reynolds
Callegari	Johnson	Riddle
Canales	Kacal	Ritter
Capriglione	Keffer	Rodriguez of Bexar
Carter	King of Hemphill	Rodriguez of Travis
Clardy	King of Parker	Rose
Coleman	King of Taylor	Sanford
Collier	King of Zavala	Schaefer
Cook	Kleinschmidt	Sheets
Cortez	Klick	Sheffield of Bell
Craddick	Kolkhorst	Sheffield of Coryell
Creighton	Krause	Simmons
Crownover	Kuempel	Simpson
Dale	Larson	Smith
Darby	Laubenberg	Smithee
Davis of Dallas	Lavender	Springer
J. Davis of Harris	Leach	Stephenson
S. Davis of Harris	Lewis	Stickland
Deshotel	Longoria	Strama
Dukes	Lozano	Taylor
Dutton	Lucio III	Thompson of Brazoria
Eiland	Marquez	Thompson of Harris
Elkins	Martinez	Toth
Fallon	Martinez Fischer	Turner of Collin
Farias	McClendon	Turner of Harris
Farney	Menendez	Turner of Tarrant
Farrar	Miles	Villalba
Fletcher	Miller of Comal	Villarreal
Flynn	Miller of Fort Bend	Vo
Frank	Moody	Walle
Frullo	Morrison	White
Geren	Munoz, Jr.	Workman
Giddings	Murphy	Wu
Goldman	Naishtat	Zedler
Gonzales	Nevarez	Zerwas

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 98 was adopted by the House on April 24, 2013, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 98 was adopted by the Senate on April 29, 2013, by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____
Date

Governor