

By: Representatives C. Fite, Payton, Fortner, S. Smith, D. Garner, McCullough, Capp, Petty, Richey, Love, Berry, Lowery, L. Johnson

HOUSE RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE ARKANSAS CHAPTER OF THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION AND PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 26, 2019, AS ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS DAY.

Subtitle

COMMENDING THE ARKANSAS CHAPTER OF THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION AND PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 26, 2019, AS ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS DAY.

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease, a progressive neurodegenerative brain disorder, tragically robs individuals of their memories and leads to progressive mental and physical impairments; and

WHEREAS, there are no known treatments to prevent, cure, or even delay the onset or slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 60,000 Arkansans have Alzheimer's disease, and currently 177,000 Arkansans are designated caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is the 6th-leading cause of death in the United States, and as of 2015, Arkansas had the 4th-highest Alzheimer's mortality rate in the country; and

WHEREAS, according to the Alzheimer's Association 2018 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures report, the direct costs to American society of



caring for those with Alzheimer's is valued at \$259 billion; more than 15 million caregivers provided over 18 billion hours of unpaid care for those with Alzheimer's and other dementias in 2016; and in Arkansas, nearly 177,000 family members and friends cared for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias, providing 201 million hours of unpaid care, with the annual value of this caregiving totaling 2,545 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Alzheimer's Association is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease and other dementias through the advancement of research and promotion of brain health and to enhance care and support for all individuals with Alzheimer's disease and their families and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of the Alzheimer's Association to raise funds and promote awareness to fight Alzheimer's disease and other dementias help improve the quality of human life for those living with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers; and

WHEREAS, February 26, 2019, would be an appropriate day to establish Alzheimer's Awareness Day in recognition of the individuals, families, friends, and caregivers dealing with Alzheimer's disease and the researchers who are seeking a cause and cure,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives commend the Arkansas Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association for their outstanding work in fighting this terrible disease and advocating for those living with the disease, and proclaim February 26, 2019, as Alzheimer's Awareness Day.