

By: Representative Painter

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE AND CELEBRATE MAY 2026 AS AMYOTROPHIC
LATERAL SCLEROSIS AWARENESS MONTH IN THIS STATE.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE AND CELEBRATE MAY 2026 AS
AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS AWARENESS
MONTH IN THIS STATE.

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

WHEREAS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis impacts not only the person diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis but also their families and communities; and

WHEREAS, thousands of new amyotrophic lateral sclerosis cases are reported every year, and estimates show that every ninety (90) minutes, someone is diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and someone passes away from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; and

WHEREAS, on average, patients diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis survive only two (2) to four (4) years from the time of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, the exact causes of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis are unknown,



and there is no known cure for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; and

WHEREAS, people who have served in the military are more likely to develop amyotrophic lateral sclerosis than those with no history of military service; and

WHEREAS, securing access to new therapies, durable medical equipment, and communication technologies upon lose of speech is of vital importance to people living with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; and

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

WHEREAS, the ALS Association is the largest philanthropic funder of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis research globally and has committed more than one hundred sixty-two million dollars (\$162,000,000) to support more than six hundred (600) projects across the United States and twenty (20) other countries; and

WHEREAS, the ALS Association is committed to make amyotrophic lateral sclerosis livable and curable for everyone, everywhere by working in communities to provide care services, equipment, advocacy, and research support; and

WHEREAS, efforts should continue to bring awareness to the community, healthcare providers, caregivers, and the general public, and support should be given to people living with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, their families and caregivers, and healthcare providers who treat amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; and

WHEREAS, by recognizing May 2026 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month, the House of Representatives provide an opportunity to increase public awareness of the dire circumstances of people living with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, acknowledge the terrible impact this disease has on those individuals and their families and communities, and show support

for research to eradicate this disease,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the House of Representatives:

(1) Recognize and celebrate May 2026 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month in Arkansas; and

(2) Encourage support of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis research, advocate for increased funding, and stand in solidarity with those affected by this relentless disease.