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LRB104 21245 LAW 35888 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), also  
3 commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive fatal  
4 neurodegenerative disease in which a person's brain loses  
5 connection with their muscles, slowly reducing a person's  
6 ability to walk, talk, eat, and eventually breathe; and

7           WHEREAS, Thousands of new ALS cases are reported every  
8 year, and estimates show that someone is diagnosed with ALS  
9 and someone passes away from ALS every 90 minutes; and

10           WHEREAS, On average, patients diagnosed with ALS survive  
11 only two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and

12           WHEREAS, The exact causes of ALS are unknown, and there is  
13 no known cure for ALS; and

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

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

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

4           WHEREAS, The ALS Association is the largest philanthropic  
5 funder of ALS research globally and has committed more than  
6 \$154 million to support more than 550 projects across the  
7 United States and 18 other countries; and

8           WHEREAS, The ALS Association is committed to making ALS  
9 livable and curing it for everyone, everywhere; and

10           WHEREAS, Observing ALS Awareness Month increases public  
11 awareness of the dire circumstances of people living with ALS,  
12 acknowledges the terrible impact this disease has on those  
13 individuals and their families, and supports research being  
14 done to eradicate this disease; therefore, be it

15           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL  
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare May 2026 as  
17 ALS Awareness Month in the State of Illinois, and we urge all  
18 Illinoisans to engage in supporting amyotrophic lateral  
19 sclerosis (ALS) research, advocating for increased funding,  
20 and standing in solidarity with those affected by this  
21 relentless disease.