

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fifth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R26-1013.01 Michael Pearsall x2044

SR26-009

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Simpson,

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Senate Committees

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SENATE RESOLUTION 26-009

101 CONCERNING ALS AWARENESS MONTH.

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

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

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

11 WHEREAS, The exact causes of ALS are unknown, although a  
12 small percentage of cases are hereditary, and there is no known cure for  
13 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 no history

1 of military service; and

2 WHEREAS, Securing access to new therapies, durable medical  
3 equipment, and communication technologies is of vital importance to  
4 people living with ALS; and

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

8 WHEREAS, Multidisciplinary care clinics improve survival rates  
9 by providing comprehensive care for patients with ALS. Clinic care  
10 includes neurology, pulmonology, nutrition, physical therapy,  
11 occupational therapy, social work, and palliative care; and

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

16 WHEREAS, The ALS United Rocky Mountain organization  
17 provides Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah support for several  
18 multidisciplinary ALS clinics, including those throughout Colorado  
19 offered by National Jewish Health and the University of Colorado  
20 Anschutz Medical Campus; and

21 WHEREAS, The ALS Association and other nonprofit  
22 organizations are committed to making ALS livable and curing it for  
23 everyone, everywhere; and

24 WHEREAS, ALS Awareness Month provides an opportunity to  
25 increase public awareness of the dire circumstances of people living with  
26 ALS and acknowledge the terrible impact this disease has on those  
27 individuals and their families. Most importantly, it can help provide  
28 support for research to eradicate this disease and for multidisciplinary  
29 ALS clinics to administer comprehensive care for patients with ALS; and

30 WHEREAS, Patients with ALS have incredible courage and  
31 inspire their families, caregivers, and the community at large; now,  
32 therefore,

33 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fifth General Assembly*

1     *of the State of Colorado:*

2             (1) That we, the members of the Colorado Senate, do hereby  
3     proclaim the month of May 2026 as ALS Awareness Month; and

4             (2) That we call upon all Coloradans to join in supporting ALS  
5     research, advocating for increased funding, and standing in solidarity with  
6     those affected by this relentless disease.

7             *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be sent to  
8     Dr. Jinny Tavee, chief of the Division of Neurology and Behavioral  
9     Health at National Jewish Hospital; Dr. Laura Foster at UCHealth  
10    Neurosciences Center at Anschutz Medical Campus; the ALS  
11    Association; the ALS United Rocky Mountain organization; Gretchen  
12    Hammer, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Health Care  
13    Policy & Financing; and Paul O'Neill, an ALS caregiver.