

House Resolution 49 - Introduced

PAG LIN

H.R. _____ S.R. _____

1 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. _____
1 2 BY CLUTE, MAY, DE BOEF, TJEPKES,
1 3 LUKAN, PALMER, BOAL, DRAKE, HOFFMAN,
1 4 GASKILL, WESSEL=KROESCHELL, MERTZ,
1 5 T. OLSON, HEATON, HORBACH, BAUDLER,
1 6 GRANZOW, CHAMBERS, SWAIM, and SODERBERG
1 7 A Resolution declaring May 2007 Amyotrophic Lateral
1 8 Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month.
1 9 WHEREAS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, is
1 10 better known as Lou Gehrig's disease; and
1 11 WHEREAS, ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disease
1 12 characterized by degeneration of cell bodies of the
1 13 lower motor neurons in the gray matter of the anterior
1 14 horns of the spinal cord; and
1 15 WHEREAS, the initial symptom of ALS is weakness of
1 16 the skeletal muscles, especially those of the
1 17 extremities; and
1 18 WHEREAS, as ALS progresses, the patient experiences
1 19 difficulty in swallowing, talking, and breathing; and
1 20 WHEREAS, ALS eventually causes muscles to atrophy
1 21 and the patient becomes a functional quadriplegic; and
1 22 WHEREAS, ALS does not affect a patient's mental
1 23 capacity, so that the patient remains alert and aware
1 24 of his or her loss of motor functions and the
1 25 inevitable outcome of continued deterioration and
1 26 death; and
1 27 WHEREAS, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS
1 28 only survive two to five years from the time of
1 29 diagnosis; and
1 30 WHEREAS, research indicates that military veterans
2 1 are at a 50 percent greater risk of developing ALS
2 2 than those who have not served in the military; and
2 3 WHEREAS, ALS has no known cause, means of
2 4 prevention, or cure; and
2 5 WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness
2 6 Month increases the public's awareness of ALS
2 7 patients' circumstances and acknowledges the terrible
2 8 impact this disease has not only on the patient but on
2 9 the patient's family and the community and recognizes
2 10 the research being done to eradicate this horrible
2 11 disease; NOW THEREFORE,
2 12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
2 13 That the House of Representatives proclaims May 2007
2 14 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month in
2 15 Iowa.
2 16 LSB 2932HH 82
2 17 jr/je/5