

1 continued deterioration and death; and

2 WHEREAS, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS only survive two to five years
3 from the time of diagnosis; and

4 WHEREAS, ALS has no known cause, means of prevention, or cure; and

5 WHEREAS, research indicates that military veterans are at a 60% or greater risk of
6 developing ALS than those who have not served in the military; and

7 WHEREAS, the Department of Veterans Affairs implemented regulations to
8 establish a presumption of service connection for ALS thereby presuming that the
9 development of ALS was incurred or aggravated by a veteran's service in the military; and

10 WHEREAS, a national ALS patient registry, administered by the Centers for Disease
11 Control, is currently identifying cases of ALS in the United States and may become the
12 single largest ALS research project ever created; and

13 WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month increases the public's
14 awareness of ALS patients' circumstances and acknowledges the terrible impact this disease
15 has not only on the patient but on his or her family and the community and recognizes the
16 research being done to eradicate this horrible disease.

17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana hereby
18 recognizes May 2011 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress of the United States is hereby
20 memorialized to enact legislation to provide additional funding for research in order to find
21 a treatment and a cure for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted
23 to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of
24 Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States
25 Congress.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Greg Waddell.

DIGEST

Recognizes May 2011 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month and
memorializes Congress to enact legislation to provide additional funding for research in
order to find a treatment and a cure for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.