

1 inevitable outcome of continued deterioration and death; and

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

4 WHEREAS, despite the catastrophic consequences of a diagnosis of ALS, the disease
5 currently has no known cause, means of protection, or cure; and

6 WHEREAS, research indicates that military veterans are at a sixty percent greater
7 risk of developing ALS than those who have not served in the military; and

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

12 WHEREAS, a national ALS registry, administered by the Centers for Disease
13 Control and Prevention, is currently identifying cases of ALS in the United States and may
14 become the largest ALS research project ever undertaken; and

15 WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month increases the
16 awareness of the circumstances of living with ALS and acknowledges the terrible impact this
17 disease has not only on the patient, but also on the family and community of anyone
18 receiving such a diagnosis; and

19 WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month also increases
20 awareness of research being done to eradicate this dire disease.

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
22 recognize May 2013 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
24 memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to provide additional
25 funding for research in order to find a treatment and a cure for Amyotrophic Lateral
26 Sclerosis.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted
28 to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of
29 Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States
30 Congress.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Mary Dozier O'Brien.

DIGEST

Cortez

SCR No. 14

Recognizes May 2013 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 ALS.