

## House Resolution 1833

By: Representatives Park of the 107<sup>th</sup>, Williams of the 168<sup>th</sup>, Frye of the 122<sup>nd</sup>, Cannon of the 58<sup>th</sup>, and Draper of the 90<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing May 2026 as ALS Awareness Month; and for other purposes.

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

6 WHEREAS, ALS does not discriminate—it can affect anyone, regardless of age, race, or  
7 background, and its impact extends beyond those diagnosed to their families, caregivers, and  
8 entire communities; and

9 WHEREAS, thousands of new ALS cases are reported in the United States every year, and  
10 estimates show that every 90 minutes, someone is diagnosed with ALS and someone passes  
11 away from the disease; and

12 WHEREAS, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS survive only two to five years from  
13 the time of diagnosis, underscoring the urgency of research, treatment access, and  
14 compassionate support; and

15 WHEREAS, the exact causes of ALS remain unknown and there is currently no known cure,  
16 making sustained investment in research and clinical trials of critical importance; and

17 WHEREAS, people who have served in the military are more likely to develop ALS and die  
18 from the disease than those without a history of military service, reflecting a particular debt  
19 of gratitude owed to those veterans and their families; and

20 WHEREAS, securing access to new therapies, durable medical equipment, and assistive  
21 communication technologies is of vital importance to people living with ALS and directly  
22 affects their quality of life and dignity; and

23 WHEREAS, clinical trials play a pivotal role in evaluating new treatments, enhancing quality  
24 of life, and fostering assistive technologies for those living with ALS; and

25 WHEREAS, the ALS Association is the largest philanthropic funder of ALS research  
26 globally and has committed more than \$154 million to support more than 550 research  
27 projects across the United States and 18 other countries, providing care services, equipment  
28 loans, advocacy, and research support to Georgians across the state; and

29 WHEREAS, constituents across Georgia, including Chris Kern of Lawrenceville, a former  
30 caregiver for a person with ALS, have bravely shared their personal experiences to advocate  
31 for greater public awareness and support for those living with and affected by this disease;  
32 and

33 WHEREAS, ALS Awareness Month provides a meaningful opportunity to increase public  
34 understanding of the devastating realities faced by those living with ALS, to honor the

35 courage of patients and caregivers, to recognize healthcare providers who serve them, and  
36 to demonstrate Georgia's commitment to supporting those impacted by this disease.

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
38 the members of this body recognize May 2026 as ALS Awareness Month.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
40 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
41 public and the press.