STATE of WISCONSIN



Proclamation

WHEREAS; according to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, commonly known as ALS or "Lou Gehrig's Disease," is a fatal neurological disorder that affects motor neurons, the nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord that control an individual's voluntary muscle movement and breathing; and

WHEREAS; early symptoms of ALS typically include muscle twitches, cramps, weakness, slurred speech, and difficulty chewing or swallowing, and as the disease progresses, symptoms evolve to include difficulty talking and breathing, followed by muscle atrophy; and

WHEREAS; while ALS can affect anyone, it is most likely to develop in men and individuals between the ages of 55 and 75, and research indicates that military veterans are at a greater risk; and

WHEREAS; according to the NIH, the cause of ALS remains largely unknown, and currently, there are no definitive means of preventing or curing the disease, and individuals diagnosed with ALS often only survive three to five years from the time of diagnosis due to respiratory failure; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins individuals affected by ALS and advocates in spreading awareness and embracing the hope that advancements in science and medicine will soon lead to a deeper understanding of the disease, new treatments to enhance quality of life, and eventually, a cure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as

ALS AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin, and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 24th day of May 2024.

TONY EVERS GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI Secretary of State