

WHEREAS; Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), commonly known as “Lou Gehrig’s Disease,” is a fatal neurodegenerative disease characterized by cell degeneration in the spinal cord; and

WHEREAS; ALS initially presents with muscle weakness, especially in the extremities, and, as the disease progresses, the patient experiences difficulty swallowing, talking, and breathing, followed by muscle atrophy, eventually becoming a functional quadriplegic; and

WHEREAS; ALS does not affect mental capacity, so the patient remains alert and aware of their loss of motor functions; and

WHEREAS; the disease has no known cause, means of prevention, or cure, and, on average, folks diagnosed with ALS only survive two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS; while ALS can strike anyone, it most commonly develops in folks aged 40 to 70, and research indicates that military veterans are twice as likely to develop the disease; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins ALS patients and advocates in spreading awareness and embracing 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 a cure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim May 2020 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 11th day of May 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State