ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 182

Introduced by von Gillern, 4; Brandt, 32; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Clements, 2; Clouse, 37; DeBoer, 10; DeKay, 40; Dorn, 30; Guereca, 7; Hallstrom, 1; Hardin, 48; Holdcroft, 36; Kauth, 31; Murman, 38; Sanders, 45; Sorrentino, 39; Storer, 43; Storm, 23; Wordekemper, 15.

WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive fatal neurodegenerative disease in which a person's brain loses connection with their muscles, slowly reducing a person's ability to walk, talk, eat, and eventually breathe; and

WHEREAS, thousands of new ALS cases are reported every year, and estimates show that every ninety minutes, someone is diagnosed with ALS and someone passes away from ALS; and

WHEREAS, the exact cause of ALS is unknown and, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS survive only two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, securing access to new therapies, durable medical equipment, and communication technologies is of vital importance to people living with ALS; and

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

WHEREAS, Joe Erhardt of Grand Rapids, Michigan, fought valiantly during his six year battle with ALS, never losing his sense of humor, and all the while encouraging, and being a catalyst for, personal and professional growth to all he knew; and

WHEREAS, like Joe, many others have bravely endured the disease, setting an example of strength and resilience in the midst of suffering; and

WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month provides an opportunity to increase public awareness of the dire circumstances of people living with ALS, acknowledge the terrible impact this disease has on those individuals and their families, and support research to eradicate this disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature recognizes May 2025 as ALS Awareness Month.

2. That the Legislature encourages Nebraskans to join in supporting ALS research and funding and recognizes those affected by this relentless disease.