

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE RESOLUTION 631

Sponsors: Representatives Faircloth, Lambeth, Lewis, and Brandon (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of Sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly Web Site.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

April 10, 2013

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CONTINUED RESEARCH TO FIND A
2 TREATMENT AND CURE FOR AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS (ALS),
3 ALSO KNOWN AS LOU GEHRIG'S DISEASE.

4 Whereas, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is better known as Lou Gehrig's
5 disease; and

6 Whereas, ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disease that is characterized by
7 degeneration of the cell bodies of the lower motor neurons in the gray matter of the anterior
8 horns of the spinal cord; and

9 Whereas, the initial symptom of ALS is weakness of the skeletal muscles, especially
10 those of the extremities; and

11 Whereas, as ALS progresses, the patient experiences difficulty in swallowing,
12 talking, and breathing; and

13 Whereas, ALS eventually causes muscles to atrophy, and the patient becomes a
14 functional quadriplegic; and

15 Whereas, ALS does not affect a patient's mental capacity, so the patient remains
16 alert and aware of the patient's loss of motor functions and of the inevitable outcome of
17 continued deterioration and death; and

18 Whereas, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS survive only two to five years
19 from the time of diagnosis; and

20 Whereas, it is estimated that up to 30,000 Americans, including North Carolinians,
21 may have ALS; and

22 Whereas, ALS has no known cause, no means of prevention, and no cure; Now,
23 therefore,

24 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

25 **SECTION 1.** The House of Representatives supports all efforts to make the
26 citizens of North Carolina aware of the dangers posed by amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

27 **SECTION 2.** The House of Representatives urges the President of the United
28 States and members of the United States Congress to ensure that research continues in order to
29 find a treatment and, eventually, a cure for ALS.

30 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.

