

**Executive Department**

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

*Columbus*

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), often known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive disorder of motor neurons, causing the death of nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord that control the action of voluntary muscles; and

**WHEREAS**, the initial symptoms of ALS include muscle weakness, atrophy, cramping, twitching, stiffness and spasticity, resulting in problems with mobility as well as speaking, swallowing and breathing. In addition to physical symptoms, the advanced stages of ALS can be financially crippling, depleting the resources of patients and families; and

**WHEREAS**, each year, over 5,000 people in the United States are diagnosed with this illness, for which there is no cure. Currently, ALS affects an estimated 35,000 Americans and 600 Ohioans. The life expectancy for those diagnosed is between three and five years; and

**WHEREAS**, ALS Awareness Month provides an opportunity to recognize the critical research underway to eradicate this disease and to increase public awareness about the devastating impact of ALS on patients, families and friends.

**NOW, THEREFORE, We, John R. Kasich and Mary Taylor, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio**, do hereby recognize May 2014 as

**ALS AWARENESS MONTH**

throughout Ohio and urge all citizens to become educated about ALS and to lend their support to combating this disease.

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2014;



John R. Kasich  
Governor



Mary Taylor  
Lieutenant Governor

