



2009 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 23

March 4, 2009 - Introduced by Representatives STRACHOTA, BENEDICT, SPANBAUER, M. WILLIAMS, BERCEAU, A. OTT, DEXTER, BIES, BROOKS, PASCH, KAUFERT, LOTHIAN and HINTZ, cosponsored by Senators ERPENBACH, DARLING, WIRCH, COWLES, TAYLOR, KEDZIE, GROTHMAN, OLSEN and LEHMAN. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** declaring May as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month.

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

4 Whereas, ALS is a fatal neurological disease characterized by degeneration of
5 nerve cells of the body's voluntary muscles; and

6 Whereas, ALS is one of the most common neuromuscular diseases worldwide,
7 affecting people of all races and backgrounds; and

8 Whereas, the onset of ALS is so slight that the symptoms are often ignored.
9 Early symptoms may include twitching, cramping, muscle weakness, slurred
10 speech, and difficulty swallowing; and

11 Whereas, ALS does not affect a person's mind, personality, or intelligence. Nor
12 does it affect a person's ability to see, smell, taste, or hear; and

13 Whereas, there exists no single test providing a definitive diagnosis. An ALS
14 diagnosis is based on an evaluation of symptoms and a series of tests to rule out other
15 diseases; and

