

**Lee County Board Of County Commissioners
Agenda Item Summary**

Blue Sheet No. 20070763

1. ACTION REQUESTED/PURPOSE:
Ceremonial Resolution recognizing ALS Awareness Month

2. FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

3. WHAT ACTION ACCOMPLISHES:

4. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATION: Approve

5. Departmental Category: CP #2

6. Meeting Date: 05/29/2007

7. Agenda:
 Consent
 Administrative
 Appeals
 Public
 Walk-On

8. Requirement/Purpose: (specify)
 Statute
 Ordinance
 Admin. Code
 Other

9. Request Initiated:
 Commissioner _____
 Department County
Commission
 Division _____
 By: _____

10. Background:

11. Review for Scheduling:

Department Director	Purchasing or Contracts	Human Resources	Other	County Attorney	Budget Services				County Manager/P. W. Director
					Analyst	Risk	Grants	Mgr.	

12. Commission Action:

Approved
 Deferred
 Denied
 Other



LEE COUNTY
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

The Board of County Commissioners

RESOLUTION

- Whereas: Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or ALS is better known as Lou Gehrig's disease; and
- Whereas: ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disease characterized by degeneration of cell bodies of the lower motor neurons in the gray matter of the anterior horns of the spinal cord; and
- Whereas: The initial symptom of ALS is weakness of the skeletal muscles, especially those of the extremities; and
- Whereas: As ALS progresses the patient experiences difficulty in swallowing, talking, and breathing; and
- Whereas: ALS eventually causes muscles to atrophy and the patient becomes a functional quadriplegic; and
- Whereas: ALS does not affect a patient's mental capacity, so that the patient remains alert and aware of his or her loss of motor functions and the inevitable outcome of continued deterioration and death; and
- Whereas: ALS occurs in adulthood, most commonly between the ages of 40 to 70 years, with the peak age about 55 years, and affects men two to three times more often than women; and
- Whereas: Over 5,000 new ALS patients are diagnosed annually; and
- Whereas: On average, patients diagnosed with ALS only survive two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and
- Whereas: Research indicates that military veterans are at a 50% or greater risk of developing ALS than those who have not served in the military; and
- Whereas: ALS has no known cause, means of prevention, or cure; and
- Whereas: Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month increases the public's awareness of ALS patients' circumstances and acknowledges the terrible impact this disease has not only on the patient but on his or her family as well, and recognizes the research being done to eradicate this horrible disease.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Board of County Commissioners of Lee County, Florida that we do hereby proclaim May 2007 as:

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month

in Lee County and be it further Resolved, that the Board of County Commissioners of Lee County strongly urges the President and Congress of the United States to enact legislation to provide additional funding for research in order to find a treatment and eventually a cure for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Duly Executed this 29th day of May 2007.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Chairman