

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION

### ALS AWARENESS MONTH MAY 2026

WHEREAS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also 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, ALS strikes people of all races, ethnicities and social statuses, and currently has no known cause, means of prevention or cure, making diagnosis difficult; and

WHEREAS, approximately 5,000 thousand people are diagnosed with ALS each year, with a new diagnosis every 90 minutes. Research indicates that military veterans are nearly 50% more likely to develop ALS than those with no history of military service. On average, patients diagnosed with ALS only survive two to five years; and

WHEREAS, access to new therapies, durable medical equipment and communication technologies is of vital importance; as well as clinical trials that play a pivotal role in evaluating new treatments to foster quality of life, and to advance assistive technologies for those living with ALS; and

WHEREAS, during ALS Awareness Month, all North Dakotans are encouraged to acknowledge the dire circumstances faced by those with ALS, the terrible impact this disease has, not only on the person diagnosed, but also on his or her family and community, and also to recognize and support the research being done to eradicate this disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim  
May 2026, **ALS AWARENESS MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.



  
Kelly Armstrong  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:   
Michael Howe  
SECRETARY OF STATE