

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 137

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 9, 2020

Sponsored by:
Senator VIN GOPAL
District 11 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Urges Congress to enact legislation supporting research and access to potential therapies for the treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** urging Congress to enact legislation
2 supporting research and access to potential therapies for the
3 treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).
4

5 **WHEREAS**, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as ALS or
6 Lou Gehrig's Disease, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease
7 that attacks nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord; and

8 **WHEREAS**, ALS strikes people between the ages of 40 and 70, and
9 as many as 30,000 men and women in the United States have the
10 disease at any given time; and

11 **WHEREAS**, There is presently no cure for ALS, and because most
12 patients live for no more than two to five more years after they
13 are first diagnosed with ALS, there is a heightened urgency in
14 the need for new and improved treatment options; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Making additional funding available for research
16 concerning the causes and potential treatments for ALS, and to
17 support clinical trials for investigational ALS drugs, will provide
18 support and hope to patients and their families struggling with the
19 challenges of an ALS diagnosis; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Advancing research efforts, supporting and promoting
21 investigational drug studies, and advancing new clinical studies
22 may accelerate the development of more effective treatments for
23 ALS or even a cure for the disease; and

24 **WHEREAS**, The enactment federal legislation will be an important step
25 in the struggle to prevent, mitigate, and relieve patients and their
26 families from the devastating effects ALS can have on the lives of
27 people living with the disease and their families; now, therefore,
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29 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the
30 General Assembly concurring):
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32 1. The Legislature respectfully urges the United States
33 Congress to enact legislation supporting research and access to
34 potential therapies for the treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
35 (ALS).
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37 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
38 shall be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of
39 the General Assembly to Majority and Minority Leaders of the
40 United States Senate, the Speaker and the Majority and Minority
41 Leaders of the United States House of Representatives, and to each
42 member of the United States Congress elected from the State of
43 New Jersey.
44

45 STATEMENT

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47 This concurrent resolution respectfully urges the Congress of the
48 United States to enact legislation supporting research and access to

1 potential therapies for the treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
2 (ALS), in order to support efforts to prevent, mitigate, treat, or cure
3 ALS.

4 Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, which is also known as Lou
5 Gehrig's Disease, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that
6 attacks nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. The disease strikes
7 people between the ages of 40 and 70, and as many as 30,000 men
8 and women in the United States have the disease at any given time.
9 There is presently no cure for ALS.

10 It is the sponsor's belief that the enactment of federal legislation
11 will be an important step in developing new treatments,
12 preventative measures, or even a cure for ALS, bringing hope to the
13 tens of thousands of people living with ALS and their families.