



# County of Sonoma

## State of California

Date: May 19, 2026

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

4/5 Vote Required

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### **Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Proclaiming May 2026 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month**

**Whereas**, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as ALS or Lou Gehrig’s disease, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, gradually robbing individuals of the ability to walk, talk, eat, and breathe; and

**Whereas**, ALS is a devastating and terminal disease that profoundly impacts not only those diagnosed, but also their families, caregivers, loved ones, and the broader community; and

**Whereas**, the cause of ALS remains unknown in most cases, and although research continues to advance, there is still no known cure for this disease; and

**Whereas**, the average life expectancy following diagnosis is often only two to five years, underscoring the urgency of increasing public awareness, improving access to care, and supporting continued research efforts.

**Whereas**, people living with ALS often face extraordinary physical, emotional, and financial challenges, and many rely on caregivers, healthcare providers, durable medical equipment, assistive communication technology, and coordinated support services to maintain dignity and quality of life; and

**Whereas**, military veterans are more likely to be diagnosed with ALS than those with no history of military service, further highlighting the need for awareness, advocacy, and support.

**Whereas**, the ALS Association and other advocacy, care, and research organizations work every day to support individuals and families impacted by ALS through services, equipment, education, advocacy, and research; and

**Whereas,** May is recognized as ALS Awareness Month and provides an important opportunity to educate the public, honor the lives of those affected by ALS, recognize caregivers and healthcare providers, and reaffirm our collective commitment to compassion, support, and hope.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma hereby proclaims May 2026 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month in Sonoma County; and

**Be It Further Resolved** that the Board encourages all residents to join in raising awareness of ALS, supporting individuals and families affected by the disease, honoring caregivers and healthcare professionals, and recognizing the importance of continued research and advocacy in the effort to improve lives and advance toward a cure.

**Supervisors:**

Rabbitt:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Hermosillo:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

**So Ordered.**