HR10

I2M4WZ6-1

By Representative DuBose

RFD: RULES

First Read: 06-Feb-24

HR___ RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 11, 2024, AS STOMPING OUT ALS DAY AND COMMENDING EMMA TERRY FOR HER EFFORTS TOWARD ALS AWARENESS.

WHEREAS, amytrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord; and

WHEREAS, the life expectancy following diagnosis of ALS is between two and five years, and it occurs throughout the world with no racial, ethnic, gender, or socioeconomic boundaries; the cause of ALS is unknown in up to 90 percent of cases; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that tens of thousands of individuals in the United States have ALS at any given time, and it is estimated that the number of ALS cases around the world is expected to increase by 70 percent between 2015 and 2040; and

WHEREAS, the majority of individuals with ALS die of respiratory failure, and currently there is no cure for ALS; Emma Terry, Miss Jefferson County and the first runner-up in the 2023 Miss Alabama Pageant, has made it her platform and mission to increase awareness of the urgent need to develop new treatments for ALS; and

WHEREAS, Miss Terry's first-hand experience with the disease inspired her platform for Miss Alabama, Stomping Out

ALS One Step at a Time; during the summers, she assists her grandmother in caring for her grandfather, who is bedridden with ALS; and

WHEREAS, Miss Terry believes that a Stomping Out ALS Day in Alabama will bring awareness of this disease and encourage others to get involved in the movement to defeat ALS; she has chosen February 11th as a day of recognition because it is her grandfather's birthday; she is inspired by him, his resilience, and his ongoing battle with ALS; and

WHEREAS, Miss Terry encourages people to take small steps to defeat ALS by donating to ALS fundraisers, taking part in social media challenges, and participating in the Walk to Defeat ALS; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we commend Miss Emma Terry for her efforts toward ALS awareness, and we recognize February 11, 2024, as Stomping out ALS Day in the State of Alabama and commend its observance to all citizens.