

ALS AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), often known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive disorder that occurs when motor nerve cells in the central nervous system cease functioning and die; and
- WHEREAS: Each year, over 5,000 people in the United States are diagnosed with this illness, for which there is no known cause or cure. There are 600 patients in Georgia; and
- WHEREAS: In the advanced stages, ALS care can cost up to \$200,000 per year, depleting the financial resources of patients and relatives; and
- WHEREAS: The suffering of patients and the anguish and struggle of caregivers must be supported and alleviated as much as possible; now
- THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 2003 as ALS AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia and urge all citizens to become educated about ALS and to lend their aid to combating this disease by all means possible.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 25th day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand three.

