

# PROCLAMATION



**WHEREAS**, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also commonly 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**, thousands of new amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) cases are reported every year, and estimates show that every 90 minutes, someone is diagnosed with ALS and someone passes away from ALS; and,

**WHEREAS**, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS survive only two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and,

**WHEREAS**, the exact causes of ALS are unknown and there is no known cure for ALS; and,

**WHEREAS**, securing access to new therapies, durable medical equipment, and communication technologies is of vital importance to people living with ALS; and,

**WHEREAS**, clinical trials play a pivotal role in evaluating new treatments, enhancing quality of life, and fostering assistive technologies for those living with ALS; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ALS Association is the largest philanthropic funder of ALS research globally and has committed more than \$154 million to support more than 550 projects across the United States and 18 other countries; and,

**WHEREAS**, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month provides an opportunity to increase public awareness of the dire circumstances of people living with ALS, acknowledge the terrible impact this disease has on those individuals and their families, and support research to eradicate this disease.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, J. Beto Lopez, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 as

## ***ALS MONTH***

and call upon to join in supporting ALS research, advocating for increased funding, and standing in solidarity with those affected by this relentless disease.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri, this 5th day of May 2026.

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***MAYOR J. BETO LOPEZ***