

HB 2317 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Beyer

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 03/04/19

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 4-0-1-0

Yeas: 4 - Beyer, Fagan, Linthicum, Monnes Anderson

Exc: 1 - Knopp

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Brian Nieubuurt, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Designates May of each year as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Number of Oregonians currently living with ALS
- Recent increase in diagnosis
- Impacts of disease on individuals and families

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is a neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord. In 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimated that between 14,000-15,000 Americans have ALS. Although ALS can strike at any age, symptoms most commonly develop between the ages of 40 and 70. Early symptoms of ALS include muscle weakness or stiffness, gradually impairing the brain's ability to initiate and control voluntary movements. ALS is a progressive disease for which there currently is no cure.

House Bill 2317 designates May of each year as ALS Awareness Month in Oregon.