

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003

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HOUSE DRH70448-LN-182 (5/18)

Short Title: Funds for ALS Association. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Lewis, Church, Howard, and Crawford (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES FOR ALLOCATION TO THE ALS ASSOCIATION FOR
CORE PROGRAMS, CLINICS, AND RESEARCH EFFORTS.

Whereas, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that attacks nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, causing motor neurons to die; and

Whereas, ALS is also known as "Lou Gehrig's disease"; and

Whereas, at any given time there are 30,000 individuals in the United States living with ALS; and

Whereas, such simple tasks as walking, talking, and grooming become difficult if not impossible; and

Whereas, despite the widespread effects of ALS on the body, the mind remains sharp; and

Whereas, programs of the Jim "Catfish" Hunter Chapter of the ALS Association have the potential to serve nearly 700 ALS patients across the State; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services the sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. These funds shall be allocated to the ALS Association, Inc., Jim "Catfish" Hunter Chapter, to be used for funding core programs, clinics, and research efforts. Core programs include augmentative Communication Loan Closet, respite care, transportation, hardship grants, and loan closet.

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2004.