

MAR 08 2019

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DECLARING NOVEMBER AS "ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS MONTH" AND JUNE AS  
"ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF  
HAWAII.

1           WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that Alzheimer's disease is  
2 a neurodegenerative disease that causes a person to  
3 progressively lose their memory and overall cognitive function  
4 over time, robbing a person of their short-term and long-term  
5 memory and significantly impacting their loved ones; and

6  
7           WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of  
8 dementia, accounting for between 60 to 80 percent of all  
9 dementia cases; and

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11           WHEREAS, someone in the United States develops Alzheimer's  
12 or some form of dementia every 65 seconds; and

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14           WHEREAS, there are currently 5.7 million people living with  
15 Alzheimer's in the United States, and the Alzheimer's  
16 Association projects that number to grow to 14 million by 2050;  
17 and

18  
19           WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is the sixth leading cause of  
20 death in the United States, killing more people than breast  
21 cancer and prostate cancer combined, with one out of three  
22 seniors dying from Alzheimer's disease according to the  
23 Alzheimer's Association; and

24  
25           WHEREAS, it is estimated that there are 28,000 people aged  
26 65 and older with Alzheimer's disease living in Hawaii today;  
27 and



# S.C.R. NO. 97

1           WHEREAS, the number of individuals suffering from  
 2 Alzheimer's disease in Hawaii is projected to increase to 35,000  
 3 people by 2025; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the Alzheimer's Association estimated that  
 6 Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia cost people in  
 7 the United States a combined \$277 billion in 2018; and  
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9           WHEREAS, no cure is currently available for Alzheimer's  
 10 disease, and the approximate cost of care for a person living  
 11 with Alzheimer's is \$341,840; and  
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13           WHEREAS, nearly nine percent of people age 45 and older  
 14 report experiencing confusion or memory loss with increasing  
 15 frequency or severity, and more than 60 percent of those  
 16 reporting have not talked to a health care provider about these  
 17 conditions; and  
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19           WHEREAS, an early and accurate diagnosis could save up to  
 20 \$7.9 trillion in medical costs; and  
 21

22           WHEREAS, President Ronald Reagan designated November as  
 23 Alzheimer's Awareness Month nationally in 1983; and  
 24

25           WHEREAS, the Legislature further finds that the public  
 26 should be encouraged to learn more about Alzheimer's disease and  
 27 other forms of dementia; now, therefore,  
 28

29           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
 30 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of  
 31 Representatives concurring, that the month of November is  
 32 declared as "Alzheimer's Awareness Month" to recognize the  
 33 individuals and their families suffering from Alzheimer's  
 34 disease; and  
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36           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the month of June is declared  
 37 "Alzheimer's and Dementia Awareness Month" to encourage  
 38 residents to learn more about Alzheimer's disease and related  
 39 ailments and to acknowledge and thank the Alzheimer's  
 40 Association Aloha Chapter for providing access to resources and  
 41 support to communities across Hawaii; and



# S.C.R. NO. 97

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that designating June as  
2 "Alzheimer's and Dementia Awareness Month" will place  
3 individuals and their families on a path to managing disease-  
4 related challenges and encourage them to contact the Alzheimer's  
5 Association Aloha Chapter to access resources and receive  
6 support for planning for the future and living well with  
7 Alzheimer's disease; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the  
11 Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association Aloha Chapter.

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OFFERED BY: *Rosemary H. Bell*

