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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING JUNE AS ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA AWARENESS MONTH IN  
THE STATE OF HAWAII.

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

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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 5.8 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

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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

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25           WHEREAS, it is estimated that there are 29,000 people aged  
26 65 and older with Alzheimer's disease living in Hawaii today, a  
27 number that is expected to increase by more than 20.7 percent by  
28 2025; and

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30           WHEREAS, the Alzheimer's Association estimated that the  
31 cost of care for a person living with Alzheimer's disease is  
32 approximately \$350,174 and Alzheimer's disease and other forms



1 of dementia cost people in the United States a combined \$290  
2 billion in 2018; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, although no cure is currently available for  
5 Alzheimer's disease, increased public awareness and an early and  
6 accurate diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of  
7 dementia may reduce the costs of care for a person living with  
8 Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia; and

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10 WHEREAS, an early and accurate diagnosis could save up to  
11 \$7.9 trillion in medical costs; 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, families and friends need to communicate with  
20 their loved ones as soon as they notice memory issues or  
21 cognitive problems and help put the individual and family on a  
22 path for managing disease-related challenges; and

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24 WHEREAS, early diagnosis of Alzheimer's offers important  
25 benefits for individuals and their families, allowing the  
26 individual diagnosed with Alzheimer's to play an active role in  
27 planning for the future; and

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29 WHEREAS, the public should be encouraged to learn more  
30 about Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia; now,  
31 therefore,

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



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  
11 Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association Aloha Chapter.

