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RFD:

First Read: 16-APR-19
PROCLAIMING APRIL 30, 2019, AS ALABAMA ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS DAY AND COMMENDING THE ALABAMA CHAPTER OF THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION FOR ITS WORK IN FIGHTING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND DEMENTIA.

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's Disease is a progressive neurodegenerative brain disorder that tragically robs individuals of their memories and leads to progressive mental and physical impairments; and

WHEREAS, there are no known treatments to prevent, cure, delay the onset, or slow the progression of Alzheimer's Disease; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's Disease is the 6th-leading cause of death in the United States; every 65 seconds, someone in the United States develops Alzheimer's Disease; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's Disease is the most costly disease in the United States; the cost of Alzheimer's Disease to Alabama's Medicaid program is $896 million, with that number projected to rise to $1.114 billion by 2025; and
WHEREAS, an estimated 94,000 Alabamians aged 65 and older have Alzheimer's Disease, with that number projected to grow to 110,000 Alabamians by 2025; and

WHEREAS, currently an additional 305,000 Alabama caregivers also bear the burden of the disease in our state with 347 million hours of unpaid care being provided by them at an estimated value of $4.392 billion in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, according to the Alzheimer's Association 2019 Disease Facts and Figures report, 5.8 million Americans of all ages are living with Alzheimer's Disease and dementia in 2019, with that number projected to grow to 14 million Americans by the year 2025 without advancements in research, prevention, treatments, or a cure; and

WHEREAS, the direct costs to American society of caring for those with Alzheimer's is valued at $290 million, with that number projected to grow to $1.1 trillion by 2050 without advancements in research, prevention, treatments, or a cure; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's Disease and dementia touch everyone, either through being personally affected or through family members and friends being affected; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Alzheimer's Association is to eliminate Alzheimer's Disease and other types of dementia through the advancement of research, the promotion of brain health, and the enhancement of care and support for all individuals with Alzheimer's Disease and dementia, as well as their families and caregivers; and
WHEREAS, the efforts of the Alzheimer's Association to raise funds and to promote awareness and research to fight Alzheimer's Disease and other types of dementia help improve the quality of human life for those living with Alzheimer's Disease and dementia and for their caregivers as well; and

WHEREAS, Tuesday, April 30, 2019, is Alzheimer's Advocacy Day at the Alabama State House, and this is a most appropriate day to recognize Alabama Alzheimer's Awareness Day in support and recognition of the individuals, families, friends, and caregivers dealing with Alzheimer's Disease and dementia, as well as the researchers who are seeking a cause and a cure; and

WHEREAS, all members of the Alabama Legislature are encouraged to wear purple, the color of Alzheimer's Awareness, on Tuesday, April 30, 2019, in support of all who are battling Alzheimer's Disease and dementia; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That April 30, 2019, is proclaimed to be Alabama Alzheimer's Awareness Day, and we commend the Alabama Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association for its work in fighting this terrible disease and in advocating for people living with Alzheimer's Disease and dementia, as well as their caregivers.