

WHEREAS, it is the pleasure of the Sparks City Council to recognize and honor those organizations that seek to protect and enhance the quality of life for the less fortunate; and

WHEREAS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), sometimes called Lou Gerhig's disease, is a rapidly progressive, invariably fatal neurological disease that attacks the nerve cells (neurons) responsible for controlling voluntary muscles and does not affect the person's ability to see, smell, taste, hear, or recognize touch; and

WHEREAS, as many as 20,000 people in the United States have ALS, an estimated 6,000 people in the United States are diagnosed with the disease each year, and approximately 250 persons living in Nevada are currently diagnosed with ALS; and

WHEREAS, every 90 minutes, someone in the United States is diagnosed with ALS and someone passes away from ALS; and

WHEREAS, military veterans are twice as likely to develop ALS as those that have not served in the military; and

WHEREAS, in the advanced stages, ALS care can cost up to \$200,000 per year, depleting the financial resources of patients and their relatives; and

WHEREAS, the suffering of patients and the anguish of their caregivers must be supported and alleviated:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ED LAWSON, Mayor of the City of Sparks, Nevada, do hereby proclaim May 2021 as:

"ALS AWARENESS MONTH"

and urge all citizens within Sparks to join us in honoring and supporting the ALS Association Nevada Chapter, a worthwhile and dedicated organization.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Sparks, Nevada to be affixed this 26th day of April 2021.

ED LAWSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

LISA HUNDERMAN, City Clerk