

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 41—Senators Porter, Amodei, Care, Carlton, Coffin, Jacobsen, James, Mathews, McGinness, Neal, O’Connell, O’Donnell, Raggio, Rawson, Rhoads, Schneider, Shaffer, Titus, Townsend, Washington and Wiener

Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Brown, Anderson, Angle, Arberry, Bache, Beers, Berman, Brower, Buckley, Carpenter, Cegavske, Chowning, Claborn, Collins, de Braga, Dini, Freeman, Gibbons, Giunchigliani, Goldwater, Gustavson, Hettrick, Humke, Koivisto, Lee, Leslie, Manendo, Marvel, McClain, Mortenson, Neighbors, Nolan, Ocegüera, Ohrenschall, Parks, Parnell, Perkins, Price, Smith, Tiffany, Von Tobel and Williams

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Recognizing May 9, 2001, as Alzheimer’s Disease Awareness Day.

WHEREAS, Alzheimer’s disease is a progressive, degenerative brain disorder characterized by memory loss, language deterioration, poor judgment and indifferent attitude, but preserved motor function; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 4 million Americans now suffer from Alzheimer’s disease, including approximately 1 in every 10 persons over 65 years of age and nearly half of those persons over 85 years of age; and

WHEREAS, At the current rate of incidence, it is estimated that 14 million Americans will be afflicted with Alzheimer’s disease by the middle of this century; and

WHEREAS, A person with Alzheimer’s disease will live an average of 8 years and may live as long as 20 years or more after the onset of symptoms; and

WHEREAS, More than 7 out of 10 persons with Alzheimer’s disease live at home, with care being provided by family and friends; and

WHEREAS, At some point, an Alzheimer’s victim will require 24-hour care, including assistance with such daily activities as eating, grooming and toileting; and

WHEREAS, It has been estimated that expenses for the diagnosis, care and treatment of Americans with Alzheimer’s disease amount to at least \$100 billion each year; and

WHEREAS, Much of the amount necessary for the care and treatment of Alzheimer’s patients is not compensated by Medicare, including the cost of most prescription drugs and long-term care; and

WHEREAS, Alzheimer’s disease is the third most expensive illness in the United States, behind only heart disease and cancer; and

WHEREAS, Statistics show that if scientists can delay the onset of Alzheimer’s disease by just 5 years, the number of persons contracting the disease can be reduced by half, thus saving this country billions of dollars in healthcare costs; and

WHEREAS, While a cure for Alzheimer’s disease has yet to be found, the Food and Drug Administration just recently approved a new drug for the treatment of mild to moderate cases of this disease, with the brand name Reminyl, which helps to improve the cognitive performance and daily functioning of patients; and

WHEREAS, The Alzheimer's Association, through its national network of more than 200 chapters, provides support to patients, families and caregivers, educates both the general public and health professionals about Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, and supports research endeavors with the hope of finding a cure; and

WHEREAS, The Northern Nevada Chapter and Southern Nevada Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association provide support to an estimated 35,000 persons with Alzheimer's disease in this state; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the Nevada Legislature is committed to creating a greater public understanding of Alzheimer's disease and to supporting the need for continued research; and be it further

RESOLVED, That May 9, 2001, is hereby recognized as Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Day.