1	SENATE MEMORIAL 36
2	53rd LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2018
3	INTRODUCED BY
4	Clemente Sanchez and Bill B. O'Neill
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10	A MEMORIAL
11	PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 5, 2018 "PATRICK GRANGE ALS AWARENESS DAY"
12	IN THE SENATE.
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14	WHEREAS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, ALS, is better
15	known as Lou Gehrig's disease; and
16	WHEREAS, ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disease that is
17	characterized by degeneration of the cell bodies of the lower
18	motor neurons in the gray matter of the anterior horns of the
19	spinal cord; and
20	WHEREAS, the initial symptom of ALS is weakness of the
21	skeletal muscles, especially those of the extremities; and
22	WHEREAS, as ALS progresses, the patient experiences
23	difficulty in swallowing, talking and breathing; and
24	WHEREAS, ALS eventually causes muscles to atrophy, and the
25	patient becomes a functional quadriplegic; and
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1 WHEREAS, ALS does not affect a patient's mental capacity, 2 so the patient remains alert and aware of the patient's loss of motor functions and of the inevitable outcome of continued 3 deterioration and death; and 4 WHEREAS, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS only 5 survive two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and 6 7 WHEREAS, research indicates that military veterans have a fifty percent greater risk of developing ALS than those who 8 9 have not served in the military; and WHEREAS, ALS has no known cause, no means of prevention 10 and no cure; and 11 12 WHEREAS, an estimated one hundred fifty New Mexicans are living with ALS at any given time; and 13 14 WHEREAS, in 2010, soon after his twenty-eighth birthday, former university of New Mexico lobo and Albuquerque high 15 school soccer star Patrick Grange was diagnosed with ALS, 16 making him the youngest ALS patient in New Mexico; and 17 WHEREAS, as a senior, Pat led the Albuquerque high school 18 19 bulldogs to a district 1-5A championship title; and 20 WHEREAS, Pat was the first soccer player to be inducted into the Albuquerque high school athletic hall of fame; and 21 WHEREAS, as a senior at the university of New Mexico, Pat 22 started in all twenty games for the lobos' men's soccer team, 23 was third on the team in scoring and scored two goals in the 24 national collegiate athletic association tournament; and 25 .209462.1

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WHEREAS, despite fighting this terrible disease as hard as he could, Pat died of ALS on April 10, 2012; and

WHEREAS, "Patrick Grange ALS Awareness Day" will increase public awareness of ALS patients' circumstances, acknowledge the terrible impact the disease has, not only on the patient but also on the patient's family and community, and recognize the research being done to eradicate this horrible disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 5, 2018 be proclaimed "Patrick Grange ALS Awareness Day" in the senate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the senate urge the president of the United States and members of congress to enact legislation to provide additional funding for research in order to find a treatment and, eventually, a cure for ALS; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the interim legislative health and human services committee.

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