

HB0989



96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2009 and 2010

HB0989

Introduced 2/10/2009, by Rep. Lou Lang

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

Appropriates \$500,000 to the Department of Public Health to provide families of ALS patients that are in need with outreach services and support. Effective July 1, 2009.

LRB096 09032 RPM 19171 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning appropriations.

2 WHEREAS, Approximately 1,000 people in Illinois have
3 amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as ALS or Lou
4 Gehrig's disease; and

5 WHEREAS, About 250 more are diagnosed each year, but
6 thousands more are actually affected by the disease, as
7 friends and family members become caregivers for people with
8 ALS; and

9 WHEREAS, Working closely with both Northwestern
10 University Feinberg School of Medicine, the Northwestern
11 Medical Faculty Foundation, and Northwestern Memorial
12 Hospital, the Les Turner ALS Foundation currently serves
13 almost 400 patients throughout the Chicagoland area;

14 WHEREAS, This number is approximately 80% of the ALS
15 population in the Chicagoland areas; and

16 WHEREAS, Although the Les Turner ALS Foundation is able
17 to provide grants to families for equipment and care, as well
18 as home visits, this is only a fraction of the actual costs
19 incurred by families caring for a loved one with ALS; and

1 WHEREAS, Because the State of Illinois, federal
2 government, and private health insurers provide limited
3 funding for these services, the Les Turner ALS Foundation,
4 and similar organizations have taken on the responsibility of
5 ensuring a quality life for patients with ALS and their
6 families; therefore

7 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented**
8 **in the General Assembly:**

9 Section 5. The amount of \$500,000, or so much of that
10 amount as may be necessary is appropriated from the General
11 Revenue Fund to the Department of Public Health for a grant
12 to provide families of ALS patients that are in need with
13 outreach services and support.

14 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
15 2009.