

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 5

J1

6lr3722

By: **Senator Ready**

Introduced and read first time: February 23, 2026

Assigned to: Rules

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Frontotemporal Degeneration Awareness Week**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the last full week of September 2026 as Frontotemporal
4 Degeneration (FTD) Awareness Week.

5 WHEREAS, The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration reports that FTD is a
6 terminal and incurable neurodegenerative disease affecting the frontal and temporal lobes,
7 causing impairments to speech, personality, behavior, and motor skills, and that it takes
8 an average of 3.6 years to get an accurate diagnosis of FTD with an average life expectancy
9 of 7 to 13 years after the onset of symptoms; and

10 WHEREAS, FTD has been diagnosed in people between 21 and 80 years old with the
11 largest percentage of those affected being between 45 and 64 years old and is the most
12 common form of dementia for people under 60 years old, rendering people in the prime of
13 life unable to work or function normally; and

14 WHEREAS, FTD imposes average annual costs associated with care and living with
15 the disease that are approximately double the costs of living with Alzheimer's disease and
16 is identified in the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease and recognized by the
17 State as a related dementia and included as part of the vision of the nation and the State
18 free of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias; and

19 WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater awareness of this serious disease,
20 and more must be done to increase activity at the local, State, and national levels; now,
21 therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the last full
23 week of September 2026 be recognized as Frontotemporal Degeneration Awareness Week;
24 and be it further



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 5

1 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
2 Legislative Services to the Governor of Maryland; the President of the Senate of Maryland;
3 and the Speaker of the House of Delegates.