



1 because of the wide range of cognitive and behavioral symptoms and their young onset; and

2 WHEREAS, FTD imposes average annual costs associated with care and living with the disease that  
3 are approximately double those of Alzheimer's disease; and

4 WHEREAS, FTD often affects a person's ability to express emotions and to show affection and  
5 empathy for loved ones; and

6 WHEREAS, in the behavioral variant of FTD, a person's sense of social graces and appropriate  
7 behavior can be lost, and their personality may be significantly changed; and

8 WHEREAS, in the language variants of FTD (primary progressive aphasia), a person may have trouble  
9 producing speech and understanding grammar, lose the meaning of words or become hesitant in their speech,  
10 and may eventually become mute; and

11 WHEREAS, in the movement variants of FTD, a person may experience muscle weakness, falling, loss  
12 of balance, difficulty making speech, difficulty swallowing, or choking; and

13 WHEREAS, while there has never been a global epidemiology study of FTD, it is estimated that more  
14 than 60,000 people are affected in the United States today; and

15 WHEREAS, AFTD is the leading national organization exclusively focused on the spectrum of FTD  
16 disorders with a mission to improve the quality of life of people affected by FTD and drive research to a cure;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, it is imperative that there be greater awareness of this serious disease, and more must be  
19 done to increase activity at the local, state, and national levels.

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21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
22 THE STATE OF MONTANA:

23 That the Legislature proclaims the last full week of September as Frontotemporal Degeneration  
24 Awareness Week and requests that the Governor issue a proclamation of the same.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to the  
26 Governor, to the director of the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, and TO the county  
27 commission of each county in Montana.

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