
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 432 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY GAYDOS, McNEILL, CONKLIN, KINSEY, HARKINS,
MARCELL, ZIMMERMAN, PICKETT, NEILSON AND MOUL, MAY 14, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, MAY 14, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2024 as "Parkinson's Disease
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is the second most common
4 progressive neurodegenerative disorder after Alzheimer's
5 disease; and

6 WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is estimated to affect
7 approximately 1 million people in the United States and the
8 prevalence will rise to 1.2 million by 2030; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and
10 Prevention, Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of
11 death in the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, Life expectancy is reduced for all onset ages, with
13 disease progression leading to severe disability and possible
14 confinement to a wheelchair or bed prior to death; and

15 WHEREAS, The symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person
16 to person and can include asymmetric tremors, slowness of
17 movement and rigidity, difficulty with balance, swallowing,
18 chewing and speaking, cognitive impairment and dementia, mood

1 disorders and a variety of other nonmotor symptoms; and

2 WHEREAS, It is estimated that the economic burden of
3 Parkinson's disease is \$52 billion annually to patients and
4 family members, including direct and indirect costs, treatment,
5 Social Security payments and lost income; and

6 WHEREAS, While research suggests the cause of Parkinson's
7 disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors,
8 the exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, There is no objective test or biomarker for
11 Parkinson's disease, and there is no cure or drug to slow or
12 halt the progression of the disease; and

13 WHEREAS, The National Parkinson's Foundation and the Michael
14 J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, along with many
15 volunteers, researchers, caregivers and medical professionals,
16 are working to improve the quality of life of individuals living
17 with Parkinson's disease and their families and to further
18 promote Parkinson's disease awareness, education, knowledge,
19 treatment and research; and

20 WHEREAS, Further efforts in research, testing and education
21 are crucial in order to advance toward improved early detection
22 methods, the discovery of more effective treatments to stop the
23 progression of Parkinson's disease and, ultimately, to find a
24 cure for this devastating disease; therefore be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
26 month of April 2024 as "Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month" in
27 Pennsylvania; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge all
29 residents to support the search for a cure and assist those
30 individuals and families who deal with this debilitating

1 disease.