

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 157

Supporting the designation of April 2019 as “Parkinson’s Awareness Month”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 10, 2019

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following
resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Supporting the designation of April 2019 as “Parkinson’s
Awareness Month”.

Whereas Parkinson’s disease is a chronic, progressive neuro-
logical disease and the second most common neurodegen-
erative disease in the United States;

Whereas, although there is inadequate data on the incidence
and prevalence of Parkinson’s disease, the disease is esti-
mated to affect between 500,000 and 1,000,000 individ-
uals in the United States, with that number expected to
more than double by 2040;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention, Parkinson’s disease is the 14th leading cause
of death in the United States;

Whereas millions of individuals in the United States are
greatly impacted by Parkinson’s disease, including the

caregivers, family members, and friends of individuals living with Parkinson's disease;

Whereas research suggests that the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause of the disease in most individuals is still unknown;

Whereas, as of March 2019, there is no objective test or biomarker with which to diagnose Parkinson's disease;

Whereas there is no known cure or drug to slow or halt the progression of Parkinson's disease, and available treatments are limited in their ability to address the medical needs of patients and remain effective over time;

Whereas the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and may include—

- (1) tremors;
- (2) slowness of movement and rigidity;
- (3) problems with gait and balance;
- (4) disturbances in speech and swallowing;
- (5) cognitive impairment and dementia;
- (6) mood disorders; and
- (7) a variety of other nonmotor symptoms;

Whereas volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of—

- (1) individuals living with Parkinson's disease; and
- (2) the families of those individuals; and

Whereas increased research, education, and community support services are needed—

- (1) to find more effective treatments; and
- (2) to provide access to quality care to individuals living with Parkinson's disease: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

1 (1) designates April 2019 as “Parkinson’s
2 Awareness Month”;

3 (2) supports the goals and ideals of Parkinson’s
4 Awareness Month;

5 (3) continues to support research to find better
6 treatments and a cure for Parkinson’s disease;

7 (4) recognizes the individuals living with Par-
8 kinson’s disease who participate in vital clinical
9 trials to advance the knowledge of the disease; and

10 (5) commends the dedication of the organiza-
11 tions, volunteers, researchers, and millions of indi-
12 viduals across the United States who are working to
13 improve the quality of life of—

14 (A) individuals living with Parkinson’s dis-
15 ease; and

16 (B) the families of those individuals.

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