

By: Howard

H.R. No. 907

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Every year, approximately 90,000 Americans are  
2 diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, a neurodegenerative disorder  
3 that causes a progressive decline in motor function and is often  
4 accompanied by other life-changing symptoms; and

5           WHEREAS, Patients with Parkinson's disease may experience  
6 tremors, slowed movements, rigid muscles, impaired posture and  
7 balance, and difficulties with actions such as speaking and  
8 writing; these symptoms vary in their severity from person to  
9 person and become worse as the disorder progresses; in many cases,  
10 patients also suffer from depression, chronic pain, and sleep  
11 disorders, and in advanced stages, some experience dementia and  
12 psychosis; and

13           WHEREAS, Currently, nearly one million individuals in the  
14 United States are suffering from Parkinson's disease caused by the  
15 loss of the nerve cells in the brain that produce dopamine; research  
16 from Johns Hopkins Medicine indicates that only about 15 percent of  
17 Parkinson's disease cases derive from genetics passed down from  
18 parent to child; and

19           WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and  
20 Prevention, Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of death  
21 in the United States; it also greatly impacts millions of Americans  
22 who are caregivers, family members, and friends of affected  
23 individuals, and the annual economic burden of Parkinson's disease  
24 is estimated to be as much as \$52 billion in direct and indirect

1 costs; and

2 WHEREAS, Because there is no known cure for Parkinson's  
3 disease, medical care is currently aimed at lessening the symptoms,  
4 slowing the disease's progression, and helping patients achieve the  
5 best quality of life possible; some research has demonstrated that  
6 regular exercise can slow or even reverse the effects of the  
7 disease; and

8 WHEREAS, Every April, Parkinson's Awareness Month serves as a  
9 means of focusing attention on the disease and promoting research  
10 into new treatments and potential cures; one organization taking  
11 part in this campaign is Power for Parkinson's, a Texas-based  
12 nonprofit that has been instrumental in raising awareness and  
13 advocating in behalf of people affected by Parkinson's disease;  
14 established in 2013, the organization offers free in-person and  
15 online fitness, dance, and singing classes for patients and their  
16 care partners, and it provides a wide range of informative  
17 resources such as support groups, workshops with experts, and  
18 social events; this year, it is hosting an event on April 15 to  
19 commemorate the 10th anniversary of its founding; and

20 WHEREAS, As the worldwide incidence of Parkinson's disease  
21 continues to rise at alarming rates, with the disease expected to  
22 affect twice as many people by 2040, the search for a cure is  
23 becoming an increasingly urgent priority, and Power for Parkinson's  
24 is to be commended for its efforts to address this devastating  
25 condition; now, therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas  
27 Legislature hereby recognize April 2023 as Parkinson's Awareness

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1 Month and honor Power for Parkinson's on the occasion of its 10th  
2 anniversary; and, be it further

3         RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
4 prepared for the organization as an expression of high regard by the  
5 Texas House of Representatives.