

By: Craddick

H.C.R. No. 137

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is a progressive neurological
2 movement disorder of the central nervous system that has an immense
3 impact on the lives of numerous individuals all around the world;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Symptoms of Parkinson's include tremors, difficulty
6 with balance and speaking, slowness, rigidity of the limbs and
7 trunk, and cognitive and memory problems; more than one million
8 Americans have been diagnosed with the disease, and it is the second
9 most common neurodegenerative condition in the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, The exact cause of Parkinson's disease is unknown,
11 and though new medicines and therapies may enhance life for
12 sufferers for a period of time, there is presently no cure; and

13 WHEREAS, Increased education and research are needed to find
14 more effective treatments with fewer side effects and also to reach
15 the ultimate goal of ending this debilitating disease; and

16 WHEREAS, Providing assistance to individuals and families as
17 they cope with the disorder is another priority; a
18 multidisciplinary approach that includes local wellness, support,
19 and caregiver groups in addition to medical treatment can play an
20 essential role in improving the quality of life for Parkinson's
21 sufferers; and

22 WHEREAS, All of these initiatives are being advanced thanks
23 to the dedicated staff and supporters of several organizations and
24 agencies, including the Parkinson's Action Network, the Parkinson's

1 Disease Foundation, the National Parkinson Foundation, the
2 American Parkinson Disease Association, and the National
3 Institutes of Health; and

4 WHEREAS, While these groups have realized notable progress,
5 more work remains to be done; in order to bring greater attention to
6 this urgent health issue, April is being recognized as Parkinson's
7 Awareness Month all around the world; and

8 WHEREAS, The lives of many Texans have been adversely
9 affected by Parkinson's disease, and it is indeed appropriate that
10 this observance be commemorated in our state in order to continue
11 the battle against this devastating disorder; now, therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, That the 82nd Legislature of the State of Texas
13 hereby designate April 2011 as Parkinson's Awareness Month.