H.R. No. 1078

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Every year, an estimated 60,000 Americans are diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, a neurodegenerative disorder that causes a progressive decline in motor function and is often accompanied by other life-changing symptoms; and

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

WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Parkinson's disease is the 14th-leading cause of death in the United States; it also greatly impacts millions of Americans who are caregivers, family members, and friends of affected individuals, and the annual economic burden of Parkinson's disease is estimated to be over $26.4 billion, with indirect costs to patients and their families totaling $6.3 billion; and

WHEREAS, There is no known cure for Parkinson's disease, and the cause remains largely unknown; medical care is currently aimed at lessening the symptoms, slowing the disease's progression, and helping patients achieve the best quality of life possible; and

WHEREAS, Every April, Parkinson's Awareness Month serves as a means of focusing attention on the disease and promoting research into new treatments and potential cures; one organization taking part in this campaign is the Davis Phinney Foundation, a national nonprofit that provides essential information, practical tools, and other resources for people living with Parkinson's; and

WHEREAS, On April 13, 2019, the foundation is holding its Victory Summit conference in Austin, which is bringing together as many as 1,000 people for a day of education and inspiration; the event features presentations by nationally and internationally recognized researchers, clinicians, and physical therapists, with the ultimate goal of advancing knowledge and expediting the discovery of innovative new technologies and treatments; and

WHEREAS, As the worldwide incidence of Parkinson's disease continues to rise at alarming rates, with the disease expected to affect 14.2 million people by 2040, the search for a cure is becoming an increasingly urgent priority, and the Davis Phinney Foundation and all those taking part in the Victory Summit are to be commended for their efforts to address this devastating condition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby recognize April 2019 as Parkinson's Awareness Month and honor the Davis Phinney Foundation on the occasion of its 2019 Victory Summit in Austin; and, be it further

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

Toth

Lambert

Bonnen of Galveston

Sanford

Klick

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1078 was adopted by the House on April 11, 2019, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House