

By: Toth

H.R. No. 1078

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Every year, an estimated 60,000 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, According to the Centers for Disease Control and  
14 Prevention, Parkinson's disease is the 14th-leading cause of death  
15 in the United States; it also greatly impacts millions of Americans  
16 who are caregivers, family members, and friends of affected  
17 individuals, and the annual economic burden of Parkinson's disease  
18 is estimated to be over \$26.4 billion, with indirect costs to  
19 patients and their families totaling \$6.3 billion; and

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

24           WHEREAS, Every April, Parkinson's Awareness Month serves as a

1 means of focusing attention on the disease and promoting research  
2 into new treatments and potential cures; one organization taking  
3 part in this campaign is the Davis Phinney Foundation, a national  
4 nonprofit that provides essential information, practical tools,  
5 and other resources for people living with Parkinson's; and

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

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

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
21 Legislature hereby recognize April 2019 as Parkinson's Awareness  
22 Month and honor the Davis Phinney Foundation on the occasion of its  
23 2019 Victory Summit in Austin; and, be it further

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