

Reps. Brown, Barnett, Brinks, Cavanagh, Cotter, Darany, Durhal, Heise, Howrylak, Kelly, Lamonte, Lori, Segal, Slavens and Stanley offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 82.

A resolution to declare April 2013 as Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Parkinson's disease is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States, second only to Alzheimer's disease; and

Whereas, Parkinson's disease is a progressive neurological movement disorder of the central nervous system which has a unique impact on each patient; and

Whereas, There is inadequate comprehensive data on the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson's disease. As of 2012, it is estimated that the disease affects between 500,000 and 1,500,000 people in the United States; and

Whereas, Research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors. The exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown; and

Whereas, There is no objective test for Parkinson's disease and the rate of misdiagnosis can be high; and

Whereas, Symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and include tremor, slowness, difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, speaking, rigidity, cognitive problems, dementia, mood disorders, such as depression and anxiety, constipation, skin problems, and sleep disruption; and

Whereas, There is no cure, therapy, or drug to slow or halt the progression of Parkinson's disease; and

Whereas, Increased education and research are needed to help find more effective treatments with fewer side effects and an effective treatment or cure for Parkinson's disease to help Parkinson's disease patients, their caregivers, and families; and

Whereas, A national month dedicated to recognizing the need for more research and help in dealing with the devastating effects of Parkinson's disease; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare April 2013 as Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month in the state of Michigan. We encourage citizens to recognize the need for increased education and research to ultimately find a cure for Parkinson's disease; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Michigan Parkinson Foundation.