

House Resolution

No. 45

Introduced by Assembly Member Dababneh

March 30, 2016

House Resolution No. 45—Relative to Parkinson’s Disease Awareness Month.

1 WHEREAS, Parkinson’s disease is a chronic, progressive,
2 neurological disease and is the second most common
3 neurodegenerative disease in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, There is inadequate data on the incidence and
5 prevalence of Parkinson’s disease, but it currently is estimated to
6 affect 500,000 to 1,500,000 people in the United States and the
7 prevalence will more than double by 2040; and

8 WHEREAS, Parkinson’s disease is the 14th leading cause of
9 death in the United States, according to the federal Centers for
10 Disease Control and Prevention; and

11 WHEREAS, It is estimated that the economic burden of
12 Parkinson’s disease is at least \$14.4 billion annually, including
13 indirect costs to patients and family members of \$6.3 billion; and

14 WHEREAS, Research suggests the cause of Parkinson’s disease
15 is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the
16 exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown; and

17 WHEREAS, There is no objective test or biomarker for
18 Parkinson’s disease, and there is no cure or drug to slow or halt
19 the progression of the disease; and

20 WHEREAS, The symptoms of Parkinson’s disease vary from
21 person to person and can include tremors, slowness of movement
22 and rigidity, cognitive impairment and dementia, mood disorders,

1 difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking, and
2 a variety of other nonmotor symptoms; and

3 WHEREAS, Volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical
4 professionals are working to improve the quality of life of persons
5 living with Parkinson’s disease and their families; and

6 WHEREAS, Increased research, education, and community
7 support services are needed to find more effective treatments and
8 to provide access to quality care to those living with the disease
9 today; now, therefore, be it

10 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That the*
11 *Assembly proclaims the month of April 2016 as Parkinson’s*
12 *Disease Awareness Month in California and urges all citizens to*
13 *support the search for a cure and to assist those individuals and*
14 *families who deal with this disabling disease on a daily basis; and*
15 *be it further*

16 *Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies*
17 *of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.*

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