

HR 9131

2013

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 2013 as "Parkinson's
3 Disease Awareness Month" in the State of Florida.

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5 WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is the second most common
6 neurodegenerative condition after Alzheimer's, with which it
7 shares a target population of over 60 years of age, and

8 WHEREAS, as many as one million Americans live with
9 Parkinson's disease, and it is estimated that another six to
10 nine million worldwide suffer from the condition, and

11 WHEREAS, in the United States, 60,000 new cases of
12 Parkinson's disease are diagnosed each year, and

13 WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease causes the deterioration of
14 neurons in the brain that produce dopamine, an essential
15 neurotransmitter that controls smooth, coordinated muscle
16 function, and

17 WHEREAS, the typical symptoms of Parkinson's disease are
18 tremor, rigidity, postural instability, and speech and
19 swallowing dysfunction, which appear when approximately 50
20 percent of a person's dopamine-producing cells are damaged, and

21 WHEREAS, diagnosis can be difficult because there is no
22 standard confirming test other than clinical examination, and,
23 while there have been considerable advances in treatment and
24 care, the cause of the disease is still unknown and there is no
25 cure for it, and

26 WHEREAS, the health and well-being of the people of Florida
27 are enhanced by the support of the National Parkinson Foundation

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28 | and its state chapters, which educate the public about
29 | Parkinson's disease, NOW, THEREFORE,

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31 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
32 | Florida:

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34 | That April 2013 is recognized as "Parkinson's Disease
35 | Awareness Month" and that the residents of this state are urged
36 | to advocate for greater understanding of Parkinson's disease and
37 | increased funding to eradicate the disease in order to spread
38 | the message of hope to future generations.