

HR 9069

2015

## House Resolution

1 A resolution recognizing April 2015 as "Parkinson's  
2 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 and occurs most frequently in men  
7 and women over 60 years of age, and

8 WHEREAS, as many as one million Americans live with  
9 Parkinson's disease and approximately 50,000 new cases are  
10 diagnosed in the United States each year, and

11 WHEREAS, it is estimated that another four to six million  
12 worldwide suffer from the condition, 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 most typical symptoms of Parkinson's disease  
18 are tremor, rigidity, postural instability, and speech and  
19 swallowing dysfunction, which appear when approximately 50 to 80  
20 percent of a person's dopamine neurons are damaged, and

21 WHEREAS, diagnosis can be difficult because there is no  
22 standard confirming test for Parkinson's disease, and, although  
23 there have been considerable advances in treatment and care, the  
24 cause of the disease is still unknown and there is no cure, and

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25 WHEREAS, the health and well-being of the citizens of  
26 Florida are enhanced by state recognition and increased public  
27 awareness, NOW, THEREFORE,

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29 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
30 Florida:

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32 That April 2015 is recognized as "Parkinson's Disease  
33 Awareness Month" in the State of Florida, and all citizens are  
34 urged to support greater understanding of Parkinson's disease  
35 and increased funding for the search for a cure and to assist  
36 those individuals and families who struggle daily with this  
37 disabling disease.