

ENROLLED

CS/CS/HB 1545, Engrossed 1

2025 Legislature

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2       An act relating to Parkinson's disease; creating s.  
3       1004.4352, F.S.; establishing the Consortium for  
4       Parkinson's Disease Research within the University of  
5       South Florida; establishing the Parkinson's Disease  
6       Research Board; requiring the board to direct the  
7       operations of the consortium and to annually adopt a  
8       plan for Parkinson's disease research; providing  
9       duties of the consortium director; providing research  
10      requirements for the plan; requiring the board to  
11      issue an annual report to the Governor and Legislature  
12      by a specified date; providing that specified  
13      provisions will be implemented subject to available  
14      funding in the General Appropriations Act; creating s.  
15      1004.4353, F.S.; establishing the Florida Institute  
16      for Parkinson's Disease within the University of South  
17      Florida; providing the purpose of the institute;  
18      providing an effective date.

19  
20   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

21  
22       Section 1.   Section 1004.4352, Florida Statutes, is created  
23   to read:

24       1004.4352   Parkinson's disease research.—

25       (1)   SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the

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26 "Parkinson's Disease Research Act."

27 (2) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.—The Legislature finds that:

28 (a) Parkinson's disease is a progressive neurological  
29 disorder affecting approximately one million Americans, with an  
30 estimated 90,000 new diagnoses each year.

31 (b) Currently, there is no cure for Parkinson's disease  
32 and innovative research is essential to advance therapies,  
33 improve patient outcomes, and alleviate the burden of the  
34 disease.

35 (3) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

36 (a) "Board" means the Parkinson's Disease Research Board.

37 (b) "Consortium" means the Consortium for Parkinson's  
38 Disease Research.

39 (4) CONSORTIUM FOR PARKINSON'S DISEASE RESEARCH.—

40 (a) There is established within the University of South  
41 Florida the Consortium for Parkinson's Disease Research which  
42 shall consist of public and private universities and academic  
43 medical centers. The purpose of the consortium is to conduct  
44 rigorous scientific research and disseminate such research.

45 (b) The Parkinson's Disease Research Board is established  
46 to direct the operations of the consortium. The board shall be  
47 composed of members representing each participating university  
48 or academic medical center appointed by the president or chief  
49 executive officer of each participating university or academic  
50 medical center. Board members must have experience in a variety

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51 of scientific fields, including, but not limited to, neurology,  
52 psychology, nutrition, and genetics. Members shall be appointed  
53 to 4-year terms and may be reappointed to serve additional  
54 terms. The chair shall be elected by the board from among its  
55 members to serve a 2-year term. The board shall meet at least  
56 semiannually at the call of the chair or, in his or her absence  
57 or incapacity, the vice chair. Four members constitute a quorum.  
58 A majority vote of the members present is required for all  
59 actions of the board. The board may prescribe, amend, and repeal  
60 a charter governing the manner in which it conducts its  
61 business. Board members shall serve without compensation, but  
62 are entitled to receive reimbursement for travel expenses by the  
63 consortium or the organization he or she represents in  
64 accordance with s. 112.061.

65 (c) The consortium shall be administered by a director,  
66 who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the  
67 board. The director shall, subject to the approval of the board:

- 68 1. Propose a budget for the consortium.  
69 2. Foster the collaboration of scientists, researchers,  
70 and other appropriate personnel in accordance with the  
71 consortium's charter.  
72 3. Engage individuals in public and private university and  
73 academic medical center programs relevant to the consortium's  
74 work to participate in the consortium.  
75 4. Identify and prioritize the research to be conducted by

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76 | the consortium.

77 |       5. Prepare a plan for Parkinson's disease research for  
78 | submission to the board.

79 |       6. Apply for grants to obtain funding for research  
80 | conducted by the consortium.

81 |       7. Perform other duties as determined by the board.

82 |       (d) The board shall annually adopt a plan for Parkinson's  
83 | disease research. The plan must organize a program of research  
84 | that contributes to the body of scientific knowledge on the  
85 | causes, mechanisms, and potential treatments for Parkinson's  
86 | disease and the prevalence of Parkinson's disease in first  
87 | responders. The board must award funds to members of the  
88 | consortium to perform research consistent with the plan.

89 |       (e) By October 15 of each year, the board shall issue a  
90 | report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the  
91 | Speaker of the House of Representatives on research projects,  
92 | research findings, community outreach initiatives, and future  
93 | plans for the consortium.

94 |       (f) The provisions of this section shall be implemented to  
95 | the extent of available appropriations contained in the annual  
96 | General Appropriations Act for such purpose.

97 |       Section 2. Section 1004.4353, Florida Statutes, is created  
98 | to read:

99 |       1004.4353 Florida Institute for Parkinson's Disease.—The  
100 | Florida Institute for Parkinson's Disease is established within

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101   the University of South Florida as a statewide resource for  
102   Parkinson's disease research and clinical care. The purpose of  
103   the institute is to find a cure for Parkinson's disease and to  
104   improve the quality of life and health outcomes for those  
105   affected by Parkinson's disease by advancing knowledge,  
106   diagnosis, and treatment of Parkinson's disease through  
107   research, clinical care, education, and advocacy.

108       Section 3.   This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.