

By the Committee on Health Policy; and Senator Calatayud

588-03164-25

20251800c1

A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to Parkinson's disease; creating s.  
1004.4352, F.S.; providing a short title; providing  
legislative findings; defining terms; establishing the  
Consortium for Parkinson's Disease Research within the  
University of South Florida; establishing the  
Parkinson's Disease Research Board; providing for the  
membership of the board; requiring the board to direct  
the operations of the consortium and to annually adopt  
a plan for Parkinson's disease research; providing  
duties of the consortium director; providing research  
requirements for the plan; requiring the board to  
award funds to board members for certain purposes;  
requiring the board to issue an annual report to the  
Governor and Legislature by a specified date;  
providing appropriations; providing an effective date.

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

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

1004.4352 Parkinson's disease research.—

(1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the  
"Parkinson's Disease Research Act."

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

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

(b) Currently, there is no cure for Parkinson's disease,

588-03164-25

20251800c1

and innovative research is essential to advance therapies,  
improve patient outcomes, and alleviate the burden of the  
disease.

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

(a) “Board” means the Parkinson’s Disease Research Board.

(b) “Consortium” means the Consortium for Parkinson’s  
Disease Research.

(4) CONSORTIUM FOR PARKINSON’S DISEASE RESEARCH.—

(a) There is established within the University of South  
Florida the Consortium for Parkinson’s Disease Research which  
shall consist of public and private universities. The purpose of  
the consortium is to conduct rigorous scientific research and  
disseminate such research.

(b) The Parkinson’s Disease Research Board is established  
to direct the operations of the consortium. The board shall be  
composed of members representing each participating university  
and appointed by the president of each participating university.  
Board members must have experience in a variety of scientific  
fields, including, but not limited to, neurology, psychology,  
nutrition, and genetics. Members shall be appointed to 4-year  
terms and may be reappointed to serve additional terms. The  
chair shall be elected by the board from among its members to  
serve a 2-year term. The board shall meet at least semiannually  
at the call of the chair or, in his or her absence or  
incapacity, the vice chair. Four members constitute a quorum. A  
majority vote of the members present is required for all actions  
of the board. The board may prescribe, amend, and repeal a  
charter governing the manner in which it conducts its business.  
Board members shall serve without compensation, but are entitled

588-03164-25

20251800c1

to receive reimbursement for travel expenses by the consortium  
or the organization he or she represents in accordance with s.  
112.061.

(c) The consortium shall be administered by a director, who  
shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the board.

The director shall, subject to the approval of the board:

1. Propose a budget for the consortium.

2. Foster the collaboration of scientists, researchers, and  
other appropriate personnel in accordance with the consortium's  
charter.

3. Engage individuals in public and private university  
programs relevant to the consortium's work to participate in the  
consortium.

4. Identify and prioritize the research to be conducted by  
the consortium.

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

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

7. Perform other duties as determined by the board.

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

(e) By October 15 of each year, the board shall issue a  
report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the

588-03164-25

20251800c1

88 Speaker of the House of Representatives on research projects,  
89 research findings, community outreach initiatives, and future  
90 plans for the consortium.

91 Section 2. (1) Subject to appropriations from the General  
92 Appropriations Act, 67 percent of funds appropriated are  
93 directed to the University of South Florida for Parkinson's  
94 disease research including, but not limited to, identifying the  
95 genetic origin of the disease and developing therapeutic  
96 interventions to slow or stop the progression of the disease.

97 (2) Subject to appropriations from the General  
98 Appropriations Act, 33 percent of funds appropriated are  
99 directed to the University of South Florida for the Consortium  
100 for Parkinson's Disease Research.

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