

**By** the Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services;  
the Committee on Health Policy; and Senator Calatayud

603-03438-25

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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 and duties of the board; requiring the  
board to direct the operations of the consortium;  
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,

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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 be composed of public and private universities and  
academic medical centers. 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  
or academic medical center, appointed by the president or chief  
executive officer, respectively, of each participating  
university or academic medical center. Board members must,  
collectively, 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

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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 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 and academic medical center 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.

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

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

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

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