

Date of Hearing: April 6, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES
Blanca Pacheco, Chair
ACR 160 (Sharp-Collins) – As Introduced March 18, 2026

SUBJECT: Parkinson’s Disease Awareness Month.

SUMMARY: Proclaims the month of April 2026 as Parkinson’s Disease Awareness Month in California. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Parkinson’s disease is a chronic, progressive neurological disease and is the second most common neurodegenerative disease behind Alzheimer’s disease in the United States.
- 2) The symptoms of Parkinson’s disease vary from person to person and can include tremors, slowness of movement and rigidity, gait and balance difficulties, speech and swallowing disturbances, cognitive impairment and dementia, mood disorders, and a variety of other non-motor symptoms.
- 3) Parkinson’s disease is the fastest growing neurological disease in the United States. It is estimated that 90,000 individuals are diagnosed annually with Parkinson’s disease in North America, 50 percent higher than research previously suggested.
- 4) Parkinson’s disease is the 15th leading cause of death in the United States, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. There are millions of Americans who are caregivers, family members, and friends greatly impacted by Parkinson’s disease.
- 5) There is no known cure or drug to slow or halt the progression of the disease, and available treatments are limited in their ability to address patients’ medical needs and remain effective over time.
- 6) According to the State Department of Public Health Parkinson’s Disease Registry, over 130,000 people in California have Parkinson’s disease. Estimates indicate Parkinson’s disease costs the state \$5.8 billion annually for direct and indirect health care costs.
- 7) The California Parkinson’s Disease Registry was created in 2017 through the state budget and became operational in 2018. The California Parkinson’s Disease Registry has become a model for the nation and the world as it collects patient information that can help improve our understanding and treatment of Parkinson’s disease.
- 8) Research suggests the cause of Parkinson’s disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause in most individuals is still unknown.
- 9) Increased research, education, and community support services are needed to find more effective treatments and to provide access to quality care to those living with the disease today.
- 10) Strengthening statewide capacity for research and innovation will help ensure that California remains at the forefront of efforts to better understand, prevent, and treat Parkinson’s disease and related disorders.

FISCAL EFFECT: This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

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