



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH

2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive neurological disease and the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there is inadequate data on the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson's disease, but it is estimated to affect approximately one million people in the United States—a number expected to more than double by 2040; and

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the economic burden of Parkinson's disease is at least \$14.4 billion annually, including indirect costs to patients and family members of \$6.3 billion; and

WHEREAS, research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown; and

WHEREAS, there is no objective test or biomarker for Parkinson's disease, and there is no cure or drug to slow or halt the progression of the disease; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors; slowness of movement and rigidity; difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking; cognitive impairment and dementia; mood disorders; and a variety of other non-motor symptoms; and

WHEREAS, volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of persons living with Parkinson's disease and their families; and

WHEREAS, 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April, 2017, as "PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.




Roy Cooper
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this fourth day of April in the year of our Lord two-thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.