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**ACR-36 Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month.** (2019-2020)

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**Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 36**

**CHAPTER 52**

Relative to Parkinson's Disease.

[ Filed with Secretary of State May 15, 2019. ]

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

ACR 36, Nazarian. Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month.

This measure would designate April 2019 as Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month.

Fiscal Committee: no

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

WHEREAS, It is estimated that over 1.5 million people in the United States suffer from Parkinson's disease, with 70,000 newly diagnosed cases per year; and

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States and is estimated to cost the country at least \$14.4 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is affecting both young and older individuals, with life expectancy reduced for all onset ages; and

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is caused by both genetic and environmental factors; and

WHEREAS, There is no diagnostic biomarker for Parkinson's disease and the rate of misdiagnosis can be high; and

WHEREAS, The symptoms of Parkinson's vary from person to person and can include tremor, rigidity, slowness of movement; difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking; and cognitive dysfunction, including dementia, depression, anxiety disorder, insomnia, and attention difficulties; and

WHEREAS, There is no cure, therapy, or drug to slow or stop the progression of Parkinson's disease, with disease progression leading to severe disability and possible confinement to a wheelchair or a bed; and

WHEREAS, Local, regional, and state volunteers, researchers, and clinicians are working together to improve the quality of life of the affected individuals with Parkinson's disease and their families; and

WHEREAS, Increased education and promoting research is needed to find the cause, more effective treatment, and a cure for Parkinson's disease; and

WHEREAS, Better awareness and expanded knowledge of the realities of life with Parkinson's disease will allow the community at large to better support people who struggle with the challenges of this debilitating condition; and

WHEREAS, The community's focus on Parkinson's disease and its impact on patients' lives will help give hope for a better future for people with Parkinson's disease; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature designates the month of April 2019, as Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month, and urges all citizens to support the search for a cure and to assist those individuals and families who deal with this disabling disease on a daily basis; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.