Dr. LaShae Sharp- Collins
79th Assembly District

AB 829: Parkinson's Disease Research Fund

SUMMARY

AB 829 establishes the California Parkinson's Disease Research Fund within the State Treasurer's office to collect private donations and voluntary tax contributions for advancing Parkinson's disease research in California. It further creates a grant program to fund universities, research institutions and medical centers' collective work to find a cure and improve the lives of individuals living with Parkinson's disease.

BACKGROUND

Parkinson's disease represents a growing public health challenge in California, affecting more than 120,000 residents and resulting in over $5 billion in annual costs to the state. As the second most common neurological disease in the United States, its impact continues to grow, with diagnoses occurring 50% more frequently than previously estimated.

California has already demonstrated leadership in this field through the establishment of the California Parkinson's Disease Registry in 2018 and its expansion to the California Neurodegenerative Disease Registry in 2021. These initiatives have served as models for other states, positioning California at the forefront of neurodegenerative disease research.

Despite these advances, there remains a critical funding gap for Parkinson's research. While California possesses world-class research institutions and a robust life science industry, additional resources are needed to accelerate research, improve treatments, and work toward potential cures.

Additionally, by creating a state fund for Parkinson's research, California has a unique opportunity to drive the development of treatments and cures for Parkinson's disease through public-private research partnerships.

THIS BILL

AB 829 creates a fund in the State Treasurer's office that will receive combine public funds, privates donations and voluntary tax contributions to provide grants to medical institutions and research entities to improve the lives of people living with Parkinson's and ultimately find a cure.

SUPPORT

Michael J. Fox Foundation (Sponsor)

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