



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

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

*WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is estimated to affect approximately one million people in the United States, and the prevalence is expected to rise to 1.2 million by 2030; and*

*WHEREAS, more than 16,000 people in Alabama are living with Parkinson's disease; 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 Parkinson's test or biomarker, so the rate of under-diagnosis can be relatively high; and*

*WHEREAS, motor and non-motor symptoms can include resting tremor, stiffness and slowness of movement and rigidity, difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, speaking, cognitive impairment, dementia and mood disorders; 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, such as those provided by the Parkinson Association of Alabama and other organizations, are needed to find more effective treatments and to provide access to quality care to those living with the disease today;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim April 2024, as*

# Parkinson's Awareness Month

*in the state of Alabama.*



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the  
Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City  
of Montgomery on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.*

*Kay Ivey*  
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Kay Ivey, Governor