

Appropriations Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-7233

Title: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PARKINSON'S DISEASE RESEARCH ACCOUNT.

Vote Date: 4/24/2025

Vote Action: JOINT FAVORABLE Substitute

PH Date: 3/28/2025

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

The Appropriations Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

The bill establishes a non-lapsing account known as the "Parkinson's Disease Research Account", to be expended by the Department of Public Health to support research into treatment of Parkinson's disease. According to the CDC, Parkinson's disease is the second-most common and fastest-growing neurological disease in the world with over 1 million cases in the United States at an annual cost of approximately \$52 billion.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[Manisha Juthani, MD- Commissioner- Department of Public Health](#)

DPH is opposed to this bill recognizing that there is a lack of expertise and experience in either research or the awarding of grants, which do not fall under the scope of this agency. The Commissioner also states the funds for the account are not included in the Governor's budget.

[Jeffrey Beckham- Secretary- Office of Policy & Management](#)

OPM is opposed to the creation of an off-budget, non-lapsing account to support research because such funding does not count towards compliance with the state's constitutional and statutory spending cap. The Secretary also has concern's that funding in Connecticut may be disconnected from research in other states or institutions.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Zach Hardy- Sr Manager of State Government Relations for The Michael J Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research

Supports HB 7233 as the first in the nation proposal for state funding dedicated to Parkinson's research and will be beneficial to the twelve thousand residents of Connecticut afflicted with Parkinson's. The direct and in-direct costs to care for these individuals in Connecticut is estimated at approximately \$617 million per year.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None offered

Reported by: Chris Reddy

Date: April 30, 2025