

HOUSE No. 2422

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

William C. Galvin

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to Parkinson's Disease public awareness and education.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>William C. Galvin</i>	<i>6th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/13/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 2422

By Representative Galvin of Canton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2422) of William C. Galvin that the Department of Public Health be authorized to establish a Parkinson's disease public information and education program. Public Health.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2170 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to Parkinson's Disease public awareness and education.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The department of public health, in consultation with the Massachusetts
2 Chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association, shall establish a Parkinson's disease
3 public information and education program to promote public awareness of Parkinson's disease
4 and the value of early detection.

5 The department's outreach campaign shall include, but is not limited to, the following
6 subjects:

- 7 (i) the cause and nature of the disease; (ii) diagnostic procedures and appropriate
8 indications for their use; (iii) lifestyle issues relating to how a person copes with Parkinson's
9 disease, including, but not limited to, nutrition, diet, and physical exercise; (iv) environmental

10 safety and injury prevention; and (v) availability of Parkinson's disease diagnostic and
11 treatment services in the community.

12 Section 2. The department of public health shall develop informational booklets about
13 Parkinson's disease and make the booklets available to all licensed health care facilities engaged
14 in the diagnosis or treatment of Parkinson's disease, as well as, to health care professionals,
15 community health centers, and members of the public upon their request. The department shall
16 publicize and make available the booklet to the maximum extent possible, and shall make the
17 booklet available electronically on its Internet website in English and Spanish. This information
18 may be revised by the department whenever new information about Parkinson's disease becomes
19 available.

20 Section 3. The department of public health shall develop educational programs for other
21 personnel, including judicial staff, police officers, fire fighters, and social services and
22 emergency medical service providers, to assist them in recognizing the symptoms of Parkinson's
23 disease and understanding how to respond to the needs of persons with the disease in the course
24 of performing their duties, including dissemination of the informational booklet mandated by
25 Section 2 of this chapter.

26 Section 4. The department of public health shall create and maintain a list of current
27 providers of specialized services for the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease.
28 Dissemination of the list shall be accompanied by a description of diagnostic procedures. The
29 statement shall also indicate that the department does not endorse specific Parkinson's disease
30 programs or centers in this State.

31 Section 5. This act shall take effect on the 180th day following enactment.