October 28, 2022

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Chair
Committee on Energy & Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Rayburn House Office Building, #2107
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy & Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Longworth House Office Building, #1035
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions
United States Senate
Russell Senate Office Building, SR-154
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Burr
Ranking Member
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions
United States Senate
Russell Senate Office Building, SR-217
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Pallone, Ranking Member McMorris Rodgers, Chairwoman Murray, and Ranking Member Burr:

We are a group of 26 organizations representing a community that understands the value and urgency of ending Parkinson's disease. We write today to request your support for The National Plan to End Parkinson’s Act (H.R.8585/S.4851). This bipartisan, no-cost legislation would establish a federal advisory council charged with creating a national plan to coordinate and maximize efforts to prevent and cure Parkinson’s disease, Parkinsonisms like MSA, PSP, LBD, and CBD, and ensure access to care for those already living with the disease.

There are more than one million people in the United States living with Parkinson’s disease. It costs our country $52 billion every year to care for people with Parkinson’s, half of which is paid by Medicare and Social Security, and yet the federal government only invests about $270 million on research toward a cure. As the Baby Boomer generation and Generation X continue to age, even more people will be diagnosed with Parkinson’s. In fact, it is believed that in the year 2037, Parkinson’s will cost our country $80 billion every year – half of which will be covered by Medicare and Social Security, while the other half will fall to American families and taxpayers. Parkinson’s is now the fastest-growing neurological disease and the second most common after Alzheimer’s. We cannot afford to wait any longer to bring all the right people to the table in a big way to end Parkinson’s.

We endorse The National Plan to End Parkinson’s Act because it would provide the pathway for federal agencies supporting Parkinson’s research and services, as well as private organizations, people living with Parkinson’s, their loved ones and caregivers, to unite in a mission to end Parkinson’s, alleviate its financial and health burdens on American families, and ease the pressure on programs like Medicare and Social Security.

Please support The National Plan to End Parkinson’s Act to help prevent and cure Parkinson’s. On behalf of the more than one million people in the United States living with the disease, including 110,000 military veterans, thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

1. The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research
2. Aimed Alliance
3. Alliance for Aging Research
4. American Academy of Neurology
5. American Brain Coalition
6. American Parkinson Disease Association
7. Brian Grant Foundation
8. Caregiver Action Network
9. Clinical Neurological Society of America
10. Cohen Veterans Bioscience
11. CurePSP
12. Dallas Area Parkinson Society (DAPS)
13. Davis Phinney Foundation for Parkinson's
14. Global Alliance to End Parkinson's Disease (PD Avengers)
15. Hawai'i Parkinson Association
16. National Alliance for Caregiving
17. Northwest Parkinson's Foundation
18. Parkinson & Movement Disorder Alliance
19. Parkinson Association of the Rockies
20. Parkinson Voice Project
21. Parkinson's Foundation
22. Parkinson's Resources of Oregon
23. Power for Parkinson's
24. Power Over Parkinson’s
25. The Multiple System Atrophy Coalition
26. The Parkinson Alliance