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LAW/RWH

Title 26.  
Chapter 2RR.  
(New)  
Parkinson's  
Disease  
§§ 1-6 -  
C.26:2RR-1 to  
26:2RR-6  
§7 - Note

P.L.2014, CHAPTER 76, *approved December 11, 2014*  
Assembly, No. 2576 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning Parkinson's disease and supplementing Title 26  
2 of the Revised Statutes.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6  
7 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Parkinson's  
8 Disease Public Awareness and Education Act."

9  
10 2. The Legislature finds and declares that:

11 a. Parkinson's disease is a debilitating, painful, and incurable  
12 neurological disorder of unknown origin that disrupts and can end  
13 the lives of those who suffer from it;

14 b. Parkinson's disease causes diverse symptoms, including  
15 rigidity, slowness of movement, poor balance, and tremors, which  
16 lead to an impaired ability to walk, speak, swallow, and even  
17 breathe, so that the end result can be a clear mind trapped inside a  
18 body that has lost its ability to function;

19 c. The visible symptoms of Parkinson's disease are often  
20 mistaken to be a normal part of the aging process;

21 d. In addition, many people with the disease encounter  
22 precarious legal and personal situations in which they are  
23 erroneously thought to be under the influence of illegal or  
24 prescription drugs or alcohol due to their movement and gait  
25 patterns;

26 e. Parkinson's disease takes an enormous emotional,  
27 psychological, and physical toll on caregivers and families,  
28 potentially overwhelming their lives;

29 f. It has been estimated that 1.5 million Americans have been  
30 diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, 50,000 more are diagnosed  
31 nationally each year, and another 1.5 million persons have the  
32 disease but have never seen a neurologist;

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AHE committee amendments adopted May 8, 2014.

- 1 g. Parkinson's disease costs Americans \$25 billion per year,  
2 including medical treatments, disability payments, and lost  
3 productivity;
- 4 h. Medications can only control some of the symptoms of the  
5 disease and only for uncertain periods of time;
- 6 i. New Jersey, with the largest concentration of pharmaceutical  
7 companies of any state in the nation and its top academic research  
8 facilities, is a center for Parkinson's disease research and treatment;
- 9 j. The "Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Disease Research Act of  
10 1997," Pub.L.105-78, provides federal funding through the National  
11 Institutes of Health for Parkinson's disease, and April 11 has been  
12 proclaimed to be World Parkinson's Day in order to recognize the  
13 need for more research and help in dealing with the devastating  
14 effects of this disease;
- 15 k. This State, through the enactment of Joint Resolution No. 17  
16 on January 7, 2000, has designated April in each year as  
17 "Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month" in New Jersey, and directs  
18 the Governor to annually issue a proclamation calling upon the  
19 public officials and citizens of the State to observe this month with  
20 appropriate activities and programs;
- 21 l. Increased public awareness and education are needed among  
22 health care, social services, judicial, law enforcement, and  
23 emergency medical services personnel in order to better respond to  
24 the needs of Parkinson's disease patients and their caregivers and  
25 families; and
- 26 m. It is imperative for New Jersey to commit itself to actively  
27 support such public awareness and education efforts throughout the  
28 State in order to better meet the needs of its citizens who are  
29 suffering from Parkinson's disease.
- 30
- 31 3. As used in this act:
- 32 "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Health <sup>1</sup>and  
33 Senior Services<sup>1</sup>.
- 34 "Department" means the Department of Health <sup>1</sup>and Senior  
35 Services<sup>1</sup>.
- 36 "Program" means the Parkinson's disease public awareness and  
37 education program established pursuant to this act.
- 38
- 39 4. The Commissioner of Health <sup>1</sup>and Senior Services<sup>1</sup>,  
40 subject to available appropriations,<sup>1</sup> shall establish a Parkinson's  
41 disease public awareness and education program.
- 42 a. The purpose of the program shall be to promote public  
43 awareness of Parkinson's disease and the value of early detection  
44 and possible treatments, including the benefits and risks of those  
45 treatments. The Department of Health <sup>1</sup>and Senior Services<sup>1</sup> may  
46 accept, for that purpose, any special grant of monies, services, or  
47 property from the federal government or any of its agencies, or

1 from any foundation, organization, or medical school.

2 b. The program shall include the following:

3 (1) Development of a public education and outreach campaign

4 to promote Parkinson's disease awareness and education, including,

5 but not limited to, the following subjects:

6 (a) the cause and nature of the disease;

7 (b) diagnostic procedures and appropriate indications for their

8 use;

9 (c) lifestyle issues relating to how a person copes with

10 Parkinson's disease, including, but not limited to, nutrition, diet,

11 and physical exercise;

12 (d) environmental safety and injury prevention; and

13 (e) availability of Parkinson's disease diagnostic and treatment

14 services in the community;

15 (2) Development of educational materials to be made available

16 to consumers through local boards of health, physicians, hospitals,

17 and clinics;

18 (3) Development of professional education programs for health

19 care providers to assist them in understanding research findings and

20 the subjects set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection;

21 (4) Development of educational programs for other personnel,

22 including judicial staff, police officers, fire fighters, and social

23 services and emergency medical service providers, to assist them in

24 recognizing the symptoms of Parkinson's disease and understanding

25 how to respond to the needs of persons with the disease in the

26 course of performing their duties, including dissemination of the

27 informational booklet prepared pursuant to section 5 of this act; and

28 (5) Development and maintenance of a list of current providers

29 of specialized services for the diagnosis and treatment of

30 Parkinson's disease. Dissemination of the list shall be accompanied

31 by a description of diagnostic procedures, appropriate indications

32 for their use, and a cautionary statement about the current status of

33 Parkinson's disease research and treatment. The statement shall

34 also indicate that the department does not endorse specific

35 Parkinson's disease programs or centers in this State.

36

37 5. <sup>1</sup>**[a.]<sup>1</sup>** The department, in consultation with the New Jersey

38 Chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association and the

39 Movement Disorders Center at the Robert Wood Johnson

40 University Medical Group, <sup>1</sup>**[UMDNJ] Rutgers<sup>1</sup>** Robert Wood

41 Johnson Medical School, shall prepare <sup>1</sup>**[an informational**

42 **booklet]**, and make available on the department's Internet

43 website,<sup>1</sup> in English and Spanish <sup>1</sup>**[, which provides]**, and<sup>1</sup> in a

44 manner <sup>1</sup>**that is<sup>1</sup>** easily understandable by a patient or other non-

45 health care professional, information about the symptoms and

46 treatment of Parkinson's disease <sup>1</sup>**[. The booklet may contain]**

47 and<sup>1</sup> any other information that the commissioner deems <sup>1</sup>**to be<sup>1</sup>**

1 necessary <sup>1</sup>【and】. This information<sup>1</sup> may be revised by the  
2 department whenever new information about Parkinson’s disease  
3 becomes available.

4 <sup>1</sup>【b. The department shall make a supply of the booklets  
5 available to all licensed health care facilities engaged in the  
6 diagnosis or treatment of Parkinson’s disease and to those personnel  
7 described in paragraph (4) of subsection b. of section 4 of this act,  
8 as well as to health care professionals, community health centers,  
9 and members of the public upon their request. The department shall  
10 publicize and make available the booklet to the maximum extent  
11 possible, and shall make available electronically on its Internet  
12 website in English and Spanish the information contained in the  
13 booklet.】<sup>1</sup>

14 6. The Commissioner of Health <sup>1</sup>【and Senior Services】<sup>1</sup>,  
15 pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410  
16 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), <sup>1</sup>【shall】 may<sup>1</sup> adopt rules and regulations to  
17 effectuate the purposes of this act.

18

19 7. This act shall take effect on the 180th day following  
20 enactment, except that the Commissioner of Health <sup>1</sup>【and Senior  
21 Services】<sup>1</sup> may take such anticipatory administrative action in  
22 advance as shall be necessary for the implementation of the act.

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“Parkinson’s Disease Public Awareness and Education Act.”

# ASSEMBLY, No. 2576

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 10, 2014

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO**

**District 20 (Union)**

**Assemblywoman NANCY J. PINKIN**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman Benson**

**SYNOPSIS**

“Parkinson’s Disease Public Awareness and Education Act.”

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/9/2014)**

1 AN ACT concerning Parkinson's disease and supplementing Title 26  
2 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Parkinson's  
8 Disease Public Awareness and Education Act."

9

10 2. The Legislature finds and declares that:

11 a. Parkinson's disease is a debilitating, painful, and incurable  
12 neurological disorder of unknown origin that disrupts and can end  
13 the lives of those who suffer from it;

14 b. Parkinson's disease causes diverse symptoms, including  
15 rigidity, slowness of movement, poor balance, and tremors, which  
16 lead to an impaired ability to walk, speak, swallow, and even  
17 breathe, so that the end result can be a clear mind trapped inside a  
18 body that has lost its ability to function;

19 c. The visible symptoms of Parkinson's disease are often  
20 mistaken to be a normal part of the aging process;

21 d. In addition, many people with the disease encounter  
22 precarious legal and personal situations in which they are  
23 erroneously thought to be under the influence of illegal or  
24 prescription drugs or alcohol due to their movement and gait  
25 patterns;

26 e. Parkinson's disease takes an enormous emotional,  
27 psychological, and physical toll on caregivers and families,  
28 potentially overwhelming their lives;

29 f. It has been estimated that 1.5 million Americans have been  
30 diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, 50,000 more are diagnosed  
31 nationally each year, and another 1.5 million persons have the  
32 disease but have never seen a neurologist;

33 g. Parkinson's disease costs Americans \$25 billion per year,  
34 including medical treatments, disability payments, and lost  
35 productivity;

36 h. Medications can only control some of the symptoms of the  
37 disease and only for uncertain periods of time;

38 i. New Jersey, with the largest concentration of pharmaceutical  
39 companies of any state in the nation and its top academic research  
40 facilities, is a center for Parkinson's disease research and treatment;

41 j. The "Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Disease Research Act of  
42 1997," Pub.L.105-78, provides federal funding through the National  
43 Institutes of Health for Parkinson's disease, and April 11 has been  
44 proclaimed to be World Parkinson's Day in order to recognize the  
45 need for more research and help in dealing with the devastating  
46 effects of this disease;

47 k. This State, through the enactment of Joint Resolution No. 17  
48 on January 7, 2000, has designated April in each year as



1 “Parkinson’s Disease Awareness Month” in New Jersey, and directs  
2 the Governor to annually issue a proclamation calling upon the  
3 public officials and citizens of the State to observe this month with  
4 appropriate activities and programs;

5 1. Increased public awareness and education are needed among  
6 health care, social services, judicial, law enforcement, and  
7 emergency medical services personnel in order to better respond to  
8 the needs of Parkinson’s disease patients and their caregivers and  
9 families; and

10 m. It is imperative for New Jersey to commit itself to actively  
11 support such public awareness and education efforts throughout the  
12 State in order to better meet the needs of its citizens who are  
13 suffering from Parkinson’s disease.

14

15 3. As used in this act:

16 “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Health and Senior  
17 Services.

18 “Department” means the Department of Health and Senior  
19 Services.

20 “Program” means the Parkinson’s disease public awareness and  
21 education program established pursuant to this act.

22

23 4. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services shall  
24 establish a Parkinson’s disease public awareness and education  
25 program.

26 a. The purpose of the program shall be to promote public  
27 awareness of Parkinson’s disease and the value of early detection  
28 and possible treatments, including the benefits and risks of those  
29 treatments. The Department of Health and Senior Services may  
30 accept, for that purpose, any special grant of monies, services, or  
31 property from the federal government or any of its agencies, or  
32 from any foundation, organization, or medical school.

33 b. The program shall include the following:

34 (1) Development of a public education and outreach campaign  
35 to promote Parkinson’s disease awareness and education, including,  
36 but not limited to, the following subjects:

37 (a) the cause and nature of the disease;

38 (b) diagnostic procedures and appropriate indications for their  
39 use;

40 (c) lifestyle issues relating to how a person copes with  
41 Parkinson’s disease, including, but not limited to, nutrition, diet,  
42 and physical exercise;

43 (d) environmental safety and injury prevention; and

44 (e) availability of Parkinson’s disease diagnostic and treatment  
45 services in the community;

46 (2) Development of educational materials to be made available  
47 to consumers through local boards of health, physicians, hospitals,  
48 and clinics;

1 (3) Development of professional education programs for health  
2 care providers to assist them in understanding research findings and  
3 the subjects set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection;

4 (4) Development of educational programs for other personnel,  
5 including judicial staff, police officers, fire fighters, and social  
6 services and emergency medical service providers, to assist them in  
7 recognizing the symptoms of Parkinson's disease and understanding  
8 how to respond to the needs of persons with the disease in the  
9 course of performing their duties, including dissemination of the  
10 informational booklet prepared pursuant to section 5 of this act; and

11 (5) Development and maintenance of a list of current providers  
12 of specialized services for the diagnosis and treatment of  
13 Parkinson's disease. Dissemination of the list shall be accompanied  
14 by a description of diagnostic procedures, appropriate indications  
15 for their use, and a cautionary statement about the current status of  
16 Parkinson's disease research and treatment. The statement shall  
17 also indicate that the department does not endorse specific  
18 Parkinson's disease programs or centers in this State.

19

20 5. a. The department, in consultation with the New Jersey  
21 Chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association and the  
22 Movement Disorders Center at the Robert Wood Johnson  
23 University Medical Group, UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical  
24 School, shall prepare an informational booklet in English and  
25 Spanish which provides, in a manner easily understandable by a  
26 patient or other non-health care professional, information about the  
27 symptoms and treatment of Parkinson's disease. The booklet may  
28 contain any other information that the commissioner deems  
29 necessary and may be revised by the department whenever new  
30 information about Parkinson's disease becomes available.

31 b. The department shall make a supply of the booklets  
32 available to all licensed health care facilities engaged in the  
33 diagnosis or treatment of Parkinson's disease and to those personnel  
34 described in paragraph (4) of subsection b. of section 4 of this act,  
35 as well as to health care professionals, community health centers,  
36 and members of the public upon their request. The department shall  
37 publicize and make available the booklet to the maximum extent  
38 possible, and shall make available electronically on its Internet  
39 website in English and Spanish the information contained in the  
40 booklet.

41

42 6. The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, pursuant  
43 to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-  
44 1 et seq.), shall adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the  
45 purposes of this act.

46

47 7. This act shall take effect on the 180th day following  
48 enactment, except that the Commissioner of Health and Senior

1 Services may take such anticipatory administrative action in  
2 advance as shall be necessary for the implementation of the act.

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4

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STATEMENT

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7 This bill, which is designated the "Parkinson's Disease Public  
8 Awareness and Education Act," establishes a Parkinson's disease  
9 public awareness and education program in the Department of  
10 Health and Senior Services (DHSS).

11 The program is to include the development of a public education  
12 and outreach campaign to promote Parkinson's disease awareness  
13 and education, including, but not limited to: (1) the cause and  
14 nature of the disease; (2) diagnostic procedures and appropriate  
15 indications for their use; (3) lifestyle issues relating to how a person  
16 copes with Parkinson's disease; (4) environmental safety and injury  
17 prevention; and (5) availability of Parkinson's disease diagnostic  
18 and treatment services in the community.

19 The program is also to include development of educational  
20 materials to be made available to consumers through local boards of  
21 health, physicians, hospitals, and clinics; professional education  
22 programs for health care providers to assist them in understanding  
23 research findings and the subjects set forth in the bill; and  
24 educational programs for other personnel, including judicial staff,  
25 police officers, fire fighters, and social services and emergency  
26 medical service providers, to assist them in recognizing the  
27 symptoms of Parkinson's disease and understanding how to respond  
28 to the needs of persons with the disease in the course of performing  
29 their duties, including dissemination of the informational booklet  
30 prepared pursuant to the bill.

31 The program is also to include development and maintenance of  
32 a list of current providers of specialized services for the diagnosis  
33 and treatment of Parkinson's disease. Dissemination of the list is to  
34 be accompanied by a description of diagnostic procedures,  
35 appropriate indications for their use, and a cautionary statement  
36 about the current status of Parkinson's disease research and  
37 treatment. The statement is to also indicate that DHSS does not  
38 endorse specific Parkinson's disease programs or centers in this  
39 State.

40 In addition, the bill directs DHSS, in consultation with the New  
41 Jersey Chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association and  
42 the Movement Disorders Center at the Robert Wood Johnson  
43 University Medical Group, UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical  
44 School, to prepare an informational booklet in English and Spanish  
45 which provides information about the symptoms and treatment of  
46 Parkinson's disease.

47 DHSS is to make a supply of the booklets available to all  
48 licensed health care facilities engaged in the diagnosis or treatment

**A2576 MUKHERJI, QUIJANO**

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1 of Parkinson's disease and to those personnel described in the bill,  
2 as well as to health care professionals, community health centers,  
3 and members of the public upon their request. DHSS is to publicize  
4 and make available the booklet to the maximum extent possible,  
5 and to make available electronically on its Internet website in  
6 English and Spanish the information contained in the booklet.

# ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 2576**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MAY 8, 2014

The Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee reports favorably and with amendments Assembly Bill No. 2576.

As amended by the committee, this bill, which is designated the "Parkinson's Disease Public Awareness and Education Act," establishes a Parkinson's disease public awareness and education program in the Department of Health (DOH), subject to available appropriations.

The program is to include the development of a public education and outreach campaign to promote Parkinson's disease awareness and education, including, but not limited to: (1) the cause and nature of the disease; (2) diagnostic procedures and appropriate indications for their use; (3) lifestyle issues relating to how a person copes with Parkinson's disease; (4) environmental safety and injury prevention; and (5) availability of Parkinson's disease diagnostic and treatment services in the community.

The program is also to include the development of educational materials to be made available to consumers through local boards of health, physicians, hospitals, and clinics; professional education programs for health care providers to assist them in understanding research findings and the subjects set forth in the bill; and educational programs for other personnel, including judicial staff, police officers, fire fighters, and social services and emergency medical service providers, to assist them in recognizing the symptoms of Parkinson's disease and understanding how to respond to the needs of persons with the disease in the course of performing their duties, including dissemination of the information prepared pursuant to the bill.

The program is also to include the development and maintenance of a list of current providers of specialized services for the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease. Dissemination of the list is to be accompanied by a description of diagnostic procedures, appropriate indications for their use, and a cautionary statement about the current status of Parkinson's disease research and treatment. The statement is also to indicate that DOH does not endorse specific Parkinson's disease programs or centers in this State.

In addition, the amended bill directs DOH, in consultation with the New Jersey Chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association and the Movement Disorders Center at the Robert Wood Johnson University Medical Group, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, to prepare, and make available on the department's Internet website, in English and Spanish, and in a manner that is easily understandable to patients and other laypeople, information about the symptoms and treatment of Parkinson's disease, and any other information the commissioner deems to be necessary.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amendments:

(1) provide that the establishment of the public awareness program is subject to available appropriations;

(2) correct references to the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the Department of Health to make them consistent with current law;

(3) require the information described under section 5 of the bill to be provided only on the department's Internet website, rather than in hard copy booklet form, and eliminate provisions related to the creation and supply of hard copy booklets; and

(4) authorize, rather than require, the Commissioner of Health to adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the act.

# ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2576**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 23, 2014

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2576 (1R).

This bill designated as the “Parkinson’s Disease Public Awareness and Education Act,” requires the Commissioner of Health to establish a Parkinson’s disease public awareness and education program, subject to available appropriations.

The program is to include the development of a public education and outreach campaign to promote Parkinson's disease awareness and education, including, but not limited to: (1) the cause and nature of the disease; (2) diagnostic procedures and appropriate indications for their use; (3) lifestyle issues relating to how a person copes with Parkinson’s disease; (4) environmental safety and injury prevention; and (5) availability of Parkinson's disease diagnostic and treatment services in the community.

The program is also to include the development of: educational materials to be made available to consumers through local boards of health, physicians, hospitals, and clinics; professional education programs for health care providers to assist them in understanding research findings and the subjects set forth in the bill; and educational programs for other personnel, including judicial staff, police officers, fire fighters, and social services and emergency medical service providers, to assist them in recognizing the symptoms of Parkinson’s disease and understanding how to respond to the needs of persons with the disease in the course of performing their duties, including dissemination of the information prepared pursuant to the bill.

The program is also to include the development and maintenance of a list of current providers of specialized services for the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson’s disease. Dissemination of the list is to be accompanied by a description of diagnostic procedures, appropriate indications for their use, and a cautionary statement about the current status of Parkinson’s disease research and treatment. The statement must indicate that DOH does not endorse specific Parkinson’s disease programs or centers in this State.

The bill directs DOH, in consultation with the New Jersey Chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association and the Movement

Disorders Center at the Robert Wood Johnson University Medical Group, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, to prepare, and make available on the department's Internet website, in English and Spanish, and in a manner that is easily understandable to patients and other laypeople, information about the symptoms and treatment of Parkinson's disease, and other information the commissioner deems to be necessary.

The bill permits the commissioner to adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of the bill.

The bill takes effect on the 180th day following enactment, but authorizes the commissioner to take anticipatory administrative actions in advance of the bill's effective date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) expects DOH may incur certain additional State costs as a result of the bill. These costs are related to provisions requiring DOH to develop: a public education and outreach campaign to promote Parkinson's disease awareness and education, educational materials for consumers, professional education programs for health care providers and other personnel, and a list of current providers of specialized services, as well as provisions requiring DOH to prepare and make available online information about the symptoms and treatment of Parkinson's disease.

However, the amount of these additional costs cannot be quantified based on available information. In part, the additional costs are dependent on how the program is implemented and administered by DOH following enactment, and the existing resources DOH may rely upon to carry out the provisions of the bill.

In addition, the costs that may be incurred by DOH may be offset, in whole or in part, by gifts or grants made available for purposes of the program. The bill authorizes DOH to accept any special grant of monies, services, or property from the federal government or from any foundation, organization, or medical school.

The OLS also notes that the additional State costs to implement and administer the program will only be incurred by DOH if funding is available through new or surplus appropriations, as the bill explicitly provides that the establishment of the program is subject to available appropriation.



# LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2576**

## **STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE**

DATED: JUNE 26, 2014

### **SUMMARY**

**Synopsis:** “Parkinson’s Disease Public Awareness and Education Act”

**Type of Impact:** Potential State expenditure increase.

**Agencies Affected:** Department of Health.

#### **Office of Legislative Services Estimate**

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	<b><u>Years 1-3</u></b>
<b>State Cost</b>	Indeterminate potential increase – See comments below

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) finds that the Department of Health (DOH) may incur certain additional, indeterminate State costs to implement the Parkinson’s disease public awareness and education program. However, the amount of these additional costs cannot be quantified based on available information, as the additional costs depend upon: how the program is implemented and administered by the DOH following enactment; and the existing resources that the DOH may rely upon to carry out the bill’s provisions.
- Because the bill explicitly provides that the establishment of the program is subject to available appropriations, any additional State costs related to implementing and administering the program will only be incurred by the DOH if funding for the program is available through new or surplus appropriations.

### **BILL DESCRIPTION**

Assembly Bill No. 2576 (1R) of 2014 establishes a Parkinson’s disease public awareness and education program in the DOH, subject to available appropriations. The program is to include the development of a public education and outreach campaign to promote Parkinson’s disease awareness and education, including, but not limited to: (1) the cause and nature of the disease; (2) diagnostic procedures and appropriate indications for their use; (3) lifestyle issues relating to

how a person copes with Parkinson's disease; (4) environmental safety and injury prevention; and (5) availability of Parkinson's disease diagnostic and treatment services in the community.

The program is also to include the development of educational materials to be made available to consumers through local boards of health, physicians, hospitals, and clinics; professional education programs for health care providers to assist them in understanding research findings and the subjects set forth in the bill; and educational programs for other personnel, including judicial staff, police officers, fire fighters, and social services and emergency medical service providers, to assist them in recognizing the symptoms of Parkinson's disease and understanding how to respond to the needs of persons with the disease in the course of performing their duties, including dissemination of information prepared pursuant to the bill.

The program is also to include the development and maintenance of a list of current providers of specialized services for the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease. In addition, the bill directs the DOH, in consultation with the New Jersey Chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association and the Movement Disorders Center at the Robert Wood Johnson University Medical Group, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, to prepare, and make available on the department's Internet website, in English and Spanish, information about the symptoms and treatment of Parkinson's disease, and any other information the Commissioner of Health deems to be necessary.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### ***EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

None received.

### ***OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES***

The OLS finds that the DOH may incur certain additional, indeterminate State costs to implement the Parkinson's disease public awareness and education program. However, the amount of these additional costs cannot be quantified based on available information, as the additional costs depend upon: how the program is implemented and administered by the DOH following enactment; and the existing resources that the DOH may rely upon to carry out the bill's provisions.

The bill requires a number of public awareness activities that may generate at least minimal State costs for the DOH, such as:

- a public education and outreach campaign;
- development of educational materials to be made available to consumers through local boards of health, physicians, hospitals, and clinics;
- development of professional education programs for health care providers and for other personnel, including judicial staff, police officers, fire fighters, social services and emergency medical services providers;
- development and maintenance of a list of current providers of specialized services for the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease; and
- preparation and publication, in English and Spanish, of information on the DOH website about the symptoms and treatment of Parkinson's disease.

Because the bill does not precisely specify the scope and intensity of these activities, the bill effectively provides the DOH with discretion over their implementation, and State costs may vary widely according to the manner in which the department chooses to implement the bill. For example, costs associated with a public outreach and education campaign may vary widely, depending on the specific media, components, and target audiences involved. Such activities may be as simple as preparing and distributing literature or posters regarding the causes, diagnosis, and treatment of Parkinson's disease. At the other extreme, such activities may involve a costly utilization of extensive outdoor advertising campaigns or broadcast media. Similarly, the potential State costs associated with the development of educational materials and professional education programs may vary according to: the complexity of the materials and programs; the need for additional staffing or consultants to develop such materials and programs; the method of disseminating the professional education programs (i.e., print, video, or in-person "train the trainer"); and other factors.

Additionally, any State costs incurred by the DOH may be offset, in whole or in part, by gifts or grants made available for purposes of the program. The bill authorizes the DOH to accept any special grant of monies, services, or property from the federal government or from any foundation, organization, or medical school. However, the OLS has insufficient information with which to assess the likelihood of such offsetting federal or private funds being received.

Finally, the OLS notes that the additional State costs related to implementing and administering the program will only be incurred by the DOH if funding is available through new or surplus appropriations, as the bill explicitly provides that the establishment of the program is subject to "available appropriations." Under a scenario where the department delays establishing the program because no funds are specifically appropriated for the program or because the department determines that sufficient funds are not otherwise available from surplus appropriations, it is possible that the bill would have no State fiscal impact during that period.

*Section: Human Services*

*Analyst: Nathan E. Myers  
Senior Fiscal Analyst*

*Approved: David J. Rosen  
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

# SENATE, No. 2516

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 16, 2014

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Senator BOB SMITH**

**District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Codey, Madden and Weinberg**

**SYNOPSIS**

“Parkinson’s Disease Public Awareness and Education Act.”

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning Parkinson's disease and supplementing Title 26  
2 of the Revised Statutes.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

6  
7 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Parkinson's  
8 Disease Public Awareness and Education Act."

9  
10 2. The Legislature finds and declares that:

11 a. Parkinson's disease is a debilitating, painful, and incurable  
12 neurological disorder of unknown origin that disrupts and can end  
13 the lives of those who suffer from it;

14 b. Parkinson's disease causes diverse symptoms, including  
15 rigidity, slowness of movement, poor balance, and tremors, which  
16 lead to an impaired ability to walk, speak, swallow, and even  
17 breathe, so that the end result can be a clear mind trapped inside a  
18 body that has lost its ability to function;

19 c. The visible symptoms of Parkinson's disease are often  
20 mistaken to be a normal part of the aging process;

21 d. In addition, many people with the disease encounter  
22 precarious legal and personal situations in which they are  
23 erroneously thought to be under the influence of illegal or  
24 prescription drugs or alcohol due to their movement and gait  
25 patterns;

26 e. Parkinson's disease takes an enormous emotional,  
27 psychological, and physical toll on caregivers and families,  
28 potentially overwhelming their lives;

29 f. It has been estimated that 1.5 million Americans have been  
30 diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, 50,000 more are diagnosed  
31 nationally each year, and another 1.5 million persons have the  
32 disease but have never seen a neurologist;

33 g. Parkinson's disease costs Americans \$25 billion per year,  
34 including medical treatments, disability payments, and lost  
35 productivity;

36 h. Medications can only control some of the symptoms of the  
37 disease and only for uncertain periods of time;

38 i. New Jersey, with the largest concentration of pharmaceutical  
39 companies of any state in the nation and its top academic research  
40 facilities, is a center for Parkinson's disease research and treatment;

41 j. The "Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Disease Research Act of  
42 1997," Pub.L.105-78, provides federal funding through the National  
43 Institutes of Health for Parkinson's disease, and April 11 has been  
44 proclaimed to be World Parkinson's Day in order to recognize the  
45 need for more research and help in dealing with the devastating  
46 effects of this disease;

47 k. This State, through the enactment of Joint Resolution No. 17  
48 on January 7, 2000, has designated April in each year as

1 “Parkinson’s Disease Awareness Month” in New Jersey, and directs  
2 the Governor to annually issue a proclamation calling upon the  
3 public officials and citizens of the State to observe this month with  
4 appropriate activities and programs;

5 1. Increased public awareness and education are needed among  
6 health care, social services, judicial, law enforcement, and  
7 emergency medical services personnel in order to better respond to  
8 the needs of Parkinson’s disease patients and their caregivers and  
9 families; and

10 m. It is imperative for New Jersey to commit itself to actively  
11 support such public awareness and education efforts throughout the  
12 State in order to better meet the needs of its citizens who are  
13 suffering from Parkinson’s disease.

14

15 3. As used in this act:

16 “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Health.

17 “Department” means the Department of Health.

18 “Program” means the Parkinson’s disease public awareness and  
19 education program established pursuant to this act.

20

21 4. The Commissioner of Health, subject to available  
22 appropriations, shall establish a Parkinson’s disease public  
23 awareness and education program.

24 a. The purpose of the program shall be to promote public  
25 awareness of Parkinson’s disease and the value of early detection  
26 and possible treatments, including the benefits and risks of those  
27 treatments. The Department of Health may accept, for that purpose,  
28 any special grant of monies, services, or property from the federal  
29 government or any of its agencies, or from any foundation,  
30 organization, or medical school.

31 b. The program shall include the following:

32 (1) Development of a public education and outreach campaign  
33 to promote Parkinson’s disease awareness and education, including,  
34 but not limited to, the following subjects:

35 (a) the cause and nature of the disease;

36 (b) diagnostic procedures and appropriate indications for their  
37 use;

38 (c) lifestyle issues relating to how a person copes with  
39 Parkinson’s disease, including, but not limited to, nutrition, diet,  
40 and physical exercise;

41 (d) environmental safety and injury prevention; and

42 (e) availability of Parkinson’s disease diagnostic and treatment  
43 services in the community;

44 (2) Development of educational materials to be made available  
45 to consumers through local boards of health, physicians, hospitals,  
46 and clinics;

47 (3) Development of professional education programs for health  
48 care providers to assist them in understanding research findings and

1 the subjects set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection;

2 (4) Development of educational programs for other personnel,  
3 including judicial staff, police officers, fire fighters, and social  
4 services and emergency medical service providers, to assist them in  
5 recognizing the symptoms of Parkinson's disease and understanding  
6 how to respond to the needs of persons with the disease in the  
7 course of performing their duties, including dissemination of the  
8 informational booklet prepared pursuant to section 5 of this act; and

9 (5) Development and maintenance of a list of current providers  
10 of specialized services for the diagnosis and treatment of  
11 Parkinson's disease. Dissemination of the list shall be accompanied  
12 by a description of diagnostic procedures, appropriate indications  
13 for their use, and a cautionary statement about the current status of  
14 Parkinson's disease research and treatment. The statement shall  
15 also indicate that the department does not endorse specific  
16 Parkinson's disease programs or centers in this State.

17

18 5. The department, in consultation with the New Jersey  
19 Chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association and the  
20 Movement Disorders Center at the Robert Wood Johnson  
21 University Medical Group, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical  
22 School, shall prepare, and make available on the department's  
23 Internet website, in English and Spanish, and in a manner that is  
24 easily understandable by a patient or other non-health care  
25 professional, information about the symptoms and treatment of  
26 Parkinson's disease and any other information that the  
27 commissioner deems to be necessary. This information may be  
28 revised by the department whenever new information about  
29 Parkinson's disease becomes available.

30

31 6. The Commissioner of Health, pursuant to the  
32 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
33 seq.), may adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of  
34 this act.

35

36 7. This act shall take effect on the 180th day following  
37 enactment, except that the Commissioner of Health may take such  
38 anticipatory administrative action in advance as shall be necessary  
39 for the implementation of the act.

40

41

42

#### STATEMENT

43

44 This bill designated as the "Parkinson's Disease Public  
45 Awareness and Education Act," requires the Commissioner of  
46 Health to establish a Parkinson's disease public awareness and  
47 education program, subject to available appropriations.

1 The program is to include the development of a public education  
2 and outreach campaign to promote Parkinson's disease awareness  
3 and education, including, but not limited to: (1) the cause and  
4 nature of the disease; (2) diagnostic procedures and appropriate  
5 indications for their use; (3) lifestyle issues relating to how a person  
6 copes with Parkinson's disease; (4) environmental safety and injury  
7 prevention; and (5) availability of Parkinson's disease diagnostic  
8 and treatment services in the community.

9 The program is also to include the development of: educational  
10 materials to be made available to consumers through local boards of  
11 health, physicians, hospitals, and clinics; professional education  
12 programs for health care providers to assist them in understanding  
13 research findings and the subjects set forth in the bill; and  
14 educational programs for other personnel, including judicial staff,  
15 police officers, fire fighters, and social services and emergency  
16 medical service providers, to assist them in recognizing the  
17 symptoms of Parkinson's disease and understanding how to respond  
18 to the needs of persons with the disease in the course of performing  
19 their duties, including dissemination of the information prepared  
20 pursuant to the bill.

21 The program is also to include the development and maintenance  
22 of a list of current providers of specialized services for the  
23 diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease. Dissemination of  
24 the list is to be accompanied by a description of diagnostic  
25 procedures, appropriate indications for their use, and a cautionary  
26 statement about the current status of Parkinson's disease research  
27 and treatment. The statement must indicate that DOH does not  
28 endorse specific Parkinson's disease programs or centers in this  
29 State.

30 The bill directs DOH, in consultation with the New Jersey  
31 Chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association and the  
32 Movement Disorders Center at the Robert Wood Johnson  
33 University Medical Group, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical  
34 School, to prepare, and make available on the department's Internet  
35 website, in English and Spanish, and in a manner that is easily  
36 understandable to patients and other laypeople, information about  
37 the symptoms and treatment of Parkinson's disease, and other  
38 information the commissioner deems to be necessary.

39 The bill permits the commissioner to adopt rules and regulations  
40 to effectuate the purposes of the bill.

41 The bill takes effect on the 180th day following enactment, but  
42 authorizes the commissioner to take anticipatory administrative  
43 actions in advance of the bill's effective date.



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE**  
**SENATE, No. 2516**  
**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**216th LEGISLATURE**

DATED: OCTOBER 27, 2014

**SUMMARY**

**Synopsis:** “Parkinson’s Disease Public Awareness and Education Act”

**Type of Impact:** Potential State expenditure increase.

**Agencies Affected:** Department of Health.

**Office of Legislative Services Estimate**

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	<b><u>Years 1-3</u></b>
<b>State Cost</b>	Indeterminate potential increase – See comments below

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) finds that the Department of Health (DOH) may incur certain additional, indeterminate State costs to implement the Parkinson’s disease public awareness and education program. However, the amount of these additional costs cannot be quantified based on available information, as the additional costs depend upon: how the program is implemented and administered by the DOH following enactment; and the existing resources that the DOH may rely upon to carry out the bill’s provisions.
- Because the bill explicitly provides that the establishment of the program is subject to available appropriations, any additional State costs related to implementing and administering the program will only be incurred by the DOH if funding for the program is available through new or surplus appropriations.

**BILL DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill No. 2516 of 2014 establishes a Parkinson’s disease public awareness and education program in the DOH, subject to available appropriations. The program is to include the development of a public education and outreach campaign to promote Parkinson’s disease awareness and education, including, but not limited to: (1) the cause and nature of the disease; (2) diagnostic procedures and appropriate indications for their use; (3) lifestyle issues relating to

how a person copes with Parkinson's disease; (4) environmental safety and injury prevention; and (5) availability of Parkinson's disease diagnostic and treatment services in the community.

The program is also to include the development of educational materials to be made available to consumers through local boards of health, physicians, hospitals, and clinics; professional education programs for health care providers to assist them in understanding research findings and the subjects set forth in the bill; and educational programs for other personnel, including judicial staff, police officers, fire fighters, and social services and emergency medical service providers, to assist them in recognizing the symptoms of Parkinson's disease and understanding how to respond to the needs of persons with the disease in the course of performing their duties, including dissemination of information prepared pursuant to the bill.

The program is also to include the development and maintenance of a list of current providers of specialized services for the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease. In addition, the bill directs the DOH, in consultation with the New Jersey Chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association and the Movement Disorders Center at the Robert Wood Johnson University Medical Group, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, to prepare, and make available on the department's Internet website, in English and Spanish, information about the symptoms and treatment of Parkinson's disease, and any other information the Commissioner of Health deems to be necessary.

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### ***EXECUTIVE BRANCH***

None received.

### ***OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES***

The OLS finds that the DOH may incur certain additional, indeterminate State costs to implement the Parkinson's disease public awareness and education program. However, the amount of these additional costs cannot be quantified based on available information, as the additional costs depend upon: how the program is implemented and administered by the DOH following enactment; and the existing resources that the DOH may rely upon to carry out the bill's provisions.

The bill requires a number of public awareness activities that may generate at least minimal State costs for the DOH, such as:

- a public education and outreach campaign;
- development of educational materials to be made available to consumers through local boards of health, physicians, hospitals, and clinics;
- development of professional education programs for health care providers and for other personnel, including judicial staff, police officers, fire fighters, social services and emergency medical services providers;
- development and maintenance of a list of current providers of specialized services for the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease; and
- preparation and publication, in English and Spanish, of information on the DOH website about the symptoms and treatment of Parkinson's disease.

Because the bill does not precisely specify the scope and intensity of these activities, the bill effectively provides the DOH with discretion over their implementation, and State costs may

vary widely according to the manner in which the department chooses to implement the bill. For example, costs associated with a public outreach and education campaign may vary widely, depending on the specific media, components, and target audiences involved. Such activities may be as simple as preparing and distributing literature or posters regarding the causes, diagnosis, and treatment of Parkinson's disease. At the other extreme, such activities may involve a costly utilization of extensive outdoor advertising campaigns or broadcast media. Similarly, the potential State costs associated with the development of educational materials and professional education programs may vary according to: the complexity of the materials and programs; the need for additional staffing or consultants to develop such materials and programs; the method of disseminating the professional education programs (i.e., print, video, or in-person "train the trainer"); and other factors.

Additionally, any State costs incurred by the DOH may be offset, in whole or in part, by gifts or grants made available for purposes of the program. The bill authorizes the DOH to accept any special grant of monies, services, or property from the federal government or from any foundation, organization, or medical school. However, the OLS has insufficient information with which to assess the likelihood of such offsetting federal or private funds being received.

Finally, the OLS notes that the additional State costs related to implementing and administering the program will only be incurred by the DOH if funding is available through new or surplus appropriations, as the bill explicitly provides that the establishment of the program is subject to "available appropriations." Under a scenario where the department delays establishing the program because no funds are specifically appropriated for the program or because the department determines that sufficient funds are not otherwise available from surplus appropriations, it is possible that the bill would have no State fiscal impact during that period.

*Section: Human Services*

*Analyst: David Drescher  
Associate Fiscal Analyst*

*Approved: David J. Rosen  
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

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