



MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT
H.B. 703 & S.B. 584 – Maryland Parkinson's Research Registry
March 28, 2023

The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research submits this memorandum of support for the **amended versions of HB 703 and SB 584**. We thank the sponsors of both bills for their continued work to come to this revised version of the legislation.

MJFF has worked together with the Department of Health to mitigate the fiscal note and work towards a solution that will provide much needed data and reporting in the coming years for the public and most importantly, the Parkinson's community writ large.

As a reminder, Parkinson's disease is the second most common and fastest growing neurological disease in the world and the number of people with PD is expected to double by 2040. The annual cost of Parkinson's nationally is at least \$52 billion and that will rise to nearly \$80 billion by 2037.¹

The direct and indirect costs to care for the over 20,000 people living with PD in Maryland is \$950 million per year – finding new treatments and ultimately a cure would save tens of millions of dollars each year.

We urge a favorable report on the amended versions HB 703 and SB 584.

Sincerely,

Julia Pitcher, JD

Director of State Government Relations
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research

¹ <https://www.michaeljfox.org/news/study-finds-parkinsons-52-billion-economic-burden-double-previous-estimates>