

**To The Honourable The Speaker and Members of The House of Representatives**

**This petition of** concerned citizens, family members, carers of, and persons living with Parkinson's Disease in Australia

**Draws to the attention of the House:**

Over 64,000 Australians (one in 350) are living with Parkinson's Disease, the second most common neurological condition in Australia, a chronic, progressive, incurable, complex and disabling condition. The economic cost of the burden of the disease in 2011 was \$8.3 billion (Deloitte Access Economics). Currently twenty-five people with Parkinson's are diagnosed every day and the number of people with Parkinson's is expected to treble to approximately 240,000 by 2033. PD is not formally recognised as a chronic disease, yet over a lifetime, persons with Parkinson's are confronted with and experience greater disability than persons with conditions recognised as chronic (including cancer, diabetes, heart disease). A major challenge in reducing the burden of this disease, on the individual, carer and family, and ultimately the public purse, is the lack of government funding for research, treatment, awareness and education (of general public and also health services community), focused specifically on PD.

**We therefore ask the House** to ask the Government to provide funds for clinical research into a cure for Parkinson's, and the development of medication and treatment to improve the quality of life for all Australians with Parkinson's disease.