

This very young industry has created a catfish market where none had previously existed. They have done this by investing substantial capital to producing a quality product which the consumer considers to be reliable, safe, and healthy. We can not allow unfair competition to destroy the livelihood of farmers, processors, employees, and communities which depend on the American catfish industry.

Before we expand trade relations with Vietnam, our two governments must resolve this issue in a way that ensures the quality and safety of Vietnamese imported fish products. The Administration must also enforce current law so that our American catfish producers are not unfairly put out of business. I am hopeful this issue can be resolved so that all Americans can enjoy the benefits of free and fair trade with Vietnam.

PROGRESS ON CURING
PARKINSON'S DISEASE

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to come to the floor this evening to mark the fourth anniversary of the passage of the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Act, an anniversary that occurred this week.

In 1999, along with my friends and colleagues, FRED UPTON, LANE EVANS, JOE SKEEN, MARK UDALL, TOM UDALL, and HENRY WAXMAN, I formed the Congressional Working Group on Parkinson's Disease. The Working Group strives to ensure that the nation's decision makers remain ever aware of the needs of the more than one million Americans struggling with the devastating disease of Parkinson's.

Four years ago this past Monday, Senator WELLSTONE was successful in adding the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Act as an amendment to the Senate FY98 Labor-HHS Appropriations bill. Not surprisingly, the amendment was approved by a vote of 95–3.

Named for Arizona Representative Mo Udall to honor his legacy, the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Act was originally introduced on April 9, 1997 in the House of Representatives. Mr. UPTON and Mr. WAXMAN were the bill's lead sponsors in the House, with Senators McCAIN and WELLSTONE sponsoring it in the Senate. In the 105th Congress, this bill, H.R. 1260, had 255 cosponsors in the House; I was a proud original cosponsor, too.

The Udall Act expanded basic and clinical research in Parkinson's Disease. It established Udall Centers of Excellence around the country and set up the Morris K. Udall Awards in Parkinson's Research to provide grants to scientists who are working to cure Parkinson's.

One of the eleven Udall Centers is located in the great city of New York. The Morris Udall Center for Parkinson Disease Research at Columbia University is doing innovative research, including identifying new genes that, when either expressed or suppressed, contribute to the degeneration of key nerve cells. The New York group is also investigating gender and ethnic differences in people with Parkinson's Disease. Notably, too, Columbia University's

Dean of Medicine is the former Director of NIH's National Institutes of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, Dr. Gerald Fischbach. The work at this Udall Center, as well as Centers across the county, is leading to a better understanding of the brain and how this disease affects it. The groundbreaking research at the Udall Centers, as well as our nation's public and private sector research effort, will lead to better treatment and a cure for Parkinson's.

In this Congress, I will proudly join Congressman MARK and TOM UDALL and members of the Congressional Working Group to introduce a reauthorization of the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Act. I urge all of my colleagues to join us in reauthorizing this important legislation.

In the spirit of Mo Udall's tenacity and strength of purpose, we cannot stop now. We must wholeheartedly support Parkinson's research until we find a cure!

As the President has said, we must continue on path to doubling the NIH budget by 2003.

In last year's appropriations, \$71.4 million of the NIH budget was designated for Parkinson's Disease research. But this is only year-one funding of the NIH's Five Year Plan for Parkinson's Disease Research. We have to remain vigilant and keep the pressure on.

Leading scientists describe Parkinson's as the most curable neurological disorder! That is why I urge my colleagues to support the second-year funding of the Five Year NIH Plan. Recent advances in Parkinson's Disease research have given us great hope that a cure is imminent. The science regarding Parkinson's has advanced to a stage where greater management and coordination of the federally-funded research effort will accelerate the pace of scientific progress dramatically. I ask all my colleagues to support NIH's research agenda by fully funding the \$143.5 million increase for FY02 in the Labor-HHS appropriations bill.

Secondly, we must continue to fund the U.S. Army's Neurotoxin Exposure Treatment Research Program. The research not only strives to improve the treatment of neurological diseases, but also aims to identify the causes of disease and prevent them.

I am heartened by the scientific progress being made. We are so close to a cure of this disease.

As you may know, this is a personal issue for many of us. Some of our colleagues are struggling with Parkinson's or have family members who are living with this illness. My own father has been afflicted by Parkinson's I have seen the impact of this disease first hand and have spoken to the experts. Professionals at NIH have said that this disease is curable within as little as 5 years. My government should be a part of that research.

Better treatment and a cure for Parkinson's Disease also depends on stem cell research. With further research into embryonic stem cells, scientists should be able to reprogram the stem cells into the dopamine-producing cells which are currently lost in Parkinson's Disease. President Bush's August decision to fund limited types of stem cell research is a small step forward for this life saving medical research, though a limited one indeed. The President's decision to permit research on existing cell lines, without allowing for the derivation of new cell lines, falls short in the eyes of many top medical researchers. Experts tell us that different cell lines hold disparate research

and therapeutic potential, and elimination of federal funding for certain lines will hold major consequences. I am quite troubled by what Secretary Tommy Thompson said yesterday. He noted that less than one-third of the embryonic stem cells lines that President Bush and said were available for federally-funded research are fully developed and currently adequate for research. This is unacceptable. We must not tie the hands of the scientists.

So again, I urge my colleagues to support the scientists and the researchers who are battling this disease by providing the funding levels needed to cure Parkinson's. In addition, we must keep the pressure on the NIH to stay true to their Five Year Plan for Parkinson's Disease Research. Let this be the Congress that history points to that fulfilled the promise of the Udall Act and provided the unwavering support that led to an end to Parkinson's Disease.

HONORING IDA WELLS ON THE
OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2001

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the many family, friends, and colleagues in paying tribute to an outstanding member of the New Haven, CT, community—Ida Wells. Ida is a tremendous individual who has shown an unparalleled dedication and commitment to our community and it is my privilege to honor her today as she celebrates her retirement from the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the city of New Haven.

Originally from Newark, NJ, Ida first came to New Haven from New York City only 16 years ago. In that time, she has developed a reputation as one of the leading advocates for public housing residents. Ida, a public housing resident herself, became active in her building as a way to fill her time. Prior to her appointment to the Housing Board of Commissioners, Ida served as Crawford Manor's tenant council president for 8 years. Even then, Ida was one of the first people her neighbors turned to when they needed a strong voice on their behalf.

As a Commissioner, Ida's job has not always been easy. With tedious budget reviews and resolutions to consider, she has often said that at first she felt like she was in the middle of a three ring circus. Her fellow commissioners have described Ida as a calming force during tense meetings—always asking the sensible question, what will this do for the residents? While she may have looked like the mild-mannered patron of the board, Ida has been one of the most outspoken members when addressing the treatment of public housing residents, especially her beloved seniors. She has shown a remarkable dedication to her job and has done much to enrich the lives of many families and seniors. Most recently, Ida started a partnership with Yale University with the hope that the program will connect Crawford Manor residents with the rest of their community through neighborhood events and trips to the theater. Ida brought a wealth of knowledge to the board from her years of experience as a tenant—demonstrating a unique