

housing; environmental racism; job opportunities; creation of entrepreneurs. There are many, many ways in which 40 acres and a mule can translate into productive activities without the need for budget-busting expenditures.

Let us start the debate here, and then go to our respective homes and continue these dialogues until the culture of racism and intolerance is eliminated from the face of the Earth, and especially, from the soil that we tilled and sowed.

#### PROGRESS ON CURING PARKINSON'S DISEASE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to commemorate the anniversary of the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Disease Research Act. This act, which was passed 4 years ago this month, has strengthened our national research effort to develop more effective treatments and hopefully a cure for Parkinson's disease.

Before I say what I have to say, I want to salute the millions of people who are in the daily battle against this disease.

□ 1700

I also want to thank Joan Samuelson and the Parkinson's Action Network for their hard work on behalf of all of us.

Additionally, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of my colleagues on the Congressional Parkinson's Working Group. To name a few, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EVANS), and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN); they have been on the front lines in fighting for research dollars and holding various projects accountable for the wise use of these funds.

Parkinson's is a devastating disease that affects more than 1 million Americans and their families. Fifty thousand people are newly diagnosed with Parkinson's each year, and of those with Parkinson's today, roughly 40 percent are under the age of 60. Most of us know someone with Parkinson's, or we know someone whose life has been touched by Parkinson's. For some of us, this issue hits close to home.

Many people knew my dad, Mo Udall, and his story. He enjoyed great health until 1976, when he broke both his arms in a fall off a ladder, caught viral pneumonia, his appendix burst, he got peritonitis, and he contracted Parkinson's Disease, all within 8 months. He had a long battle with Parkinson's before he passed away in December of 1998.

One way my father chose to deal with Parkinson's was to make light of it.

Shortly after he was diagnosed, there was a scandal involving a woman by the name of Paula Parkinson, a blond lobbyist who kissed and told about her affairs with several Congressmen. He used to tell a joke that there were two kinds of Parkinson's disease, the kind discovered by an English doctor during the 1800s and the kind you get when you go to Florida with a blond lobbyist. There were no similarities between the two afflictions, he said, except they both cause you to lose sleep and they both give you the shakes.

In all seriousness, though, I think Mo would be humbled and honored by the fact that this important act and the centers of excellence it creates are named after him. He dedicated his life to making a difference in the lives of people, and by having his name associated with this act, he continues to have an impact on the world even after his death.

The act authorizes \$100 million at the National Institutes of Health for Parkinson's research. It also establishes 10 centers for research throughout the Nation and creates a national Parkinson's information clearinghouse for support of research and education.

Mr. Speaker, the Udall Act has helped us make tremendous progress in the fight against Parkinson's and in understanding other neurodegenerative diseases. That is why we need to act soon and reauthorize the act. We need to give researchers the necessary funding and support to combat this debilitating and ruthless disease.

We will be introducing legislation in the next month to reauthorize the act, and I fervently hope that my colleagues will work with us to make the dream of finding a cure for Parkinson's come true.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to yield to my colleague and good friend, the gentleman from the great State of North Carolina (Mr. PRICE).

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me and want to commend him for calling this Special Order today and giving Members an opportunity to join in honoring the late Morris Udall and in observing the fourth anniversary of the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Act.

Mr. Speaker, Parkinson's disease and related disorders afflict approximately 1 million Americans. Sixty thousand more are diagnosed each year with Parkinson's disease. Approximately 40 percent of those afflicted are under the age of 60. This is a devastating disease, and its incidence probably actually is underreported. Because it is not contagious and it does not have to be reported, we probably underestimate the extent of this devastating disorder. It is estimated that Parkinson's disease costs society \$25 billion or more annually.

I appreciate very much our colleague, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. UDALL), coming to the floor today and sharing the story with his colleagues of

his father's illness; and of course, we all remember his father's great accomplishments. Mo Udall was one of this body's greatest Members in the 20th century, a man of great humor, great concern for those in this society who are less fortunate, and a man of great achievement in this body. Mo Udall's last years were marred by Parkinson's disease, but he dealt with it courageously.

We are all fortunate that his son, our colleague from Colorado, and his nephew, the gentleman from Arizona, are carrying on his good work in this body. We appreciate what the gentleman from Colorado is doing today and appreciate especially his sharing the story of his father with us and reminding us of the importance of carrying on this work, which we do in his name.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. I thank the gentleman for expressing those sentiments, and I know everyone in my family appreciates the affection and respect that the gentleman has acknowledged that exists for my father.

I would add to the comments that the gentleman made that I think Parkinson's disease should truly be characterized as the most common uncommon disease. And by that I mean, the researchers tell us only about a million Americans have the disease. But I guarantee that if we were to walk out on the streets outside the Capitol here and we were to talk to four or five people, by the time we would get to the fifth person, they will know somebody in their immediate family or a friend who has Parkinson's disease and who is battling it valiantly.

They would also, I think, be excited to know that we are so close to not only finding ways to combat the disease but to actually identify a cure, and that is why it is so important to reauthorize this act and continue the momentum that has been generated over the past 10 years.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. That is absolutely true. The number of families affected by this disease directly and indirectly is, of course, in the millions, and that includes my own family. My late father had a brother who was afflicted with Parkinson's. He had an uncle who was afflicted with Parkinson's.

My dad, incidentally, was a great fan of the gentleman's father. I remember when I was the Democratic Party chairman in North Carolina, we were fortunate enough to line up Mo Udall as the speaker at our annual party banquet. It was over in the western part of the State, so my dad, who resided in east Tennessee, was able to come over for this function. He could not stop laughing. He said Mo Udall was the funniest man he had ever heard or seen anywhere, almost enough to make a Democrat out of him!

Mo Udall was a wonderful man who brought great good humor to politics, great warmth, and a wonderful spirit. He later autographed his book "Too Funny to Be President," and we gave it

to my dad to his great delight. So Mo Udall was a huge personal favorite in our family.

One cannot imagine a more fitting monument, a more fitting tribute to Mo Udall, than to pass this research act aimed at the scourge of Parkinson's disease and to carry out this path-breaking research in Mo Udall's name.

The gentleman, of course, is quite accurate also in depicting the promise of this research. We have now across the country 11 Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Centers. One of those is at Duke University in my part of North Carolina. Dr. Jeffery Vance leads the Udall Center at Duke University, where a research team is using several state-of-the-art methods to find genes that may contribute to the etiology of Parkinson's disease and to distinguish the genes that contribute to familial Parkinson's from those involved in sporadic cases. That is path-breaking research, typical of what is going on in these research centers.

The Udall program also has expanded basic and clinical research at institutions across this country. It has established the Morris K. Udall awards to encourage innovative research, and supported the creation of Parkinson's data banks and information clearing-houses in support of research and education.

So this is a landmark statute and the programs that it has spawned are ongoing and are full of promise. It is very, very important not only to observe this fourth anniversary of the Udall Act's passage, but also to pledge here and now that we are going to continue this work and build on this work.

We must double the NIH's budget over these 5 years, and I hope and believe we are on the way to doing that in this year's appropriations cycle. NIH has developed, under the directions laid down by the Udall Act, a 5-year Parkinson's disease research agenda. Last year, Congress funded the first year of that plan, so within NIH it is vitally important to continue that specific research program.

The Udall Act has gotten us started, and it has provided the framework for the comprehensive research that we simply must undertake as a Nation on Parkinson's disease. And I would say to the gentleman that I hope, in having this Special Order today and observing this fourth anniversary, that this can be an occasion for all of us, all of our colleagues, to resolve to continue to build upon the vital and necessary work that the Udall Act has gotten under way.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. If I might add an additional comment, I am confident that our colleagues on both sides of the aisle will join us in this important effort to reauthorize this piece of legislation. Parkinson's is not a Republican or a Democrat or a Green Party or Libertarian Party disease. It affects people across our country and across the world. And the work that has been

done, as the gentleman points out, is far-reaching. And we are so close to understanding how to not only, as I mentioned earlier, make sure that the disease is mitigated but literally cured.

The area of the brain where this takes place has been identified and mapped. And as the gentleman points out, there are indications that the disease is, in some cases, genetic or hereditary; but in other cases, is environmentally induced. There is excellent work going on in the Department of Defense also, working with veterans, and they are looking through their own program on how to combat Parkinson's disease or contributing to the efforts at NIH has undertaken.

I want to again thank the gentleman for taking his time to come to the floor and to point out to our colleagues the great opportunity we have to make a difference in a lot of lives. If we think about a million Americans who have the disease, think about the extended families that are affected by the disease and the costs that are incurred, not just financially, but emotionally, in these communities, this is a terrible disease; and it is one that we can cure and we ought to get about the business of it now.

So I thank the gentleman.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. I thank the gentleman from Colorado for his comments here today and for carrying on this great work. We must use this occasion to resolve to press forward.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. I thank the gentleman for joining us today.

It is my pleasure at this point to yield time to my colleague, the gentleman from the great State of Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN).

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Colorado, for yielding time for me to speak on this issue. Before I begin, I want to mention that, of course, I never had the opportunity to meet his father, Mo Udall, but I have nothing but respect for the reputation that he has established in public service, and I know that he would be proud of his son, the gentleman from Colorado, in continuing that proud family tradition of strong commitment to public service.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the fourth anniversary of the passage of the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Act and to stress the vital importance of expanding support and research for treatment of Parkinson's disease. Named for Arizona Representative Mo Udall, the Parkinson's Research Act expands basic and clinical research on Parkinson's disease and establishes Morris K. Udall Centers for awards for excellence in Parkinson's disease research.

Since its introduction, this landmark legislation has received overwhelming congressional support. In the 105th Congress, the Morris K. Udall Parkin-

son's Research Act garnered 255 co-sponsors, and in the 106th Congress it passed the Senate by a nearly unanimous vote of 95 to 3.

I am proud that Congress embraced this initiative, as more people suffer from Parkinson's disease than multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy and Lou Gehrig's disease combined.

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But our work is far from over. About 60,000 Americans are diagnosed with this disease each year, that is one person every 9 minutes, and more than half a million living with Parkinson's disease today.

Fortunately, there may be some hope on the horizon. Parkinson's disease is one of the many diseases for which stem cell research offers significant promise. Yesterday I testified before the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee about the potential for embryonic stem cell research to alleviate pain and suffering in millions of people. It is my strong hope that our Nation's premier researchers will be able to engage in this ground-breaking research expeditiously to save, lengthen, and dramatically improve the quality of life of those who live with Parkinson's and other debilitating diseases and conditions.

On this anniversary of the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Act, I urge my colleagues to follow through on our commitment to double the budget of the National Institutes of Health, increase funding for the Morris K. Udall Center, and break down the barriers to unprecedented, life-saving stem cell research. Until we have conquered Parkinson's, our work is not complete.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for taking the time to come speak on this important issue; and I want to associate myself with his comments on stem cell research.

Stem cell research is an important part of understanding Parkinson's disease and eventually finding a cure. I look forward to working with the gentleman in the days and months and years to come to see that that promise is fulfilled. I thank the gentleman for taking the time to join us today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the State of Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. UDALL), one, for his vision, for his family, and for this very special legislation of the day to honor the authorization, the fourth anniversary of the authorization and passage of the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Act. This is an important anniversary.

Throughout our tenure in Congress there are ups and downs. What I consider an up is an opportunity to meet with my constituents from my district and all over the Nation. Some of the most eloquent and articulate persons

are those who are physically suffering from Parkinson's and others who come to collaborate on the importance of finding a cure and the ability to research this debilitating disease.

In the name of Morris K. Udall, this legislation passed an important milestone in striking a chord for finding out the reason that this disease has gotten such a grip on people around the world. This research or this research act has been funded and the legislation, of course, was passed through the leadership of Senator WELLSTONE in terms of adding an amendment and adding additional dollars. We now come to a time where it is necessary to reauthorize it.

Even more so during this stem cell research debate that I find the importance of this particular legislation which continually persists in attempting to find a cure by added research. It never allows to rest the continued theorizing and study of the importance of discovering new ways to attack this disease.

I am certainly disappointed that we are at a certain standstill in stem cell research. I would have wanted and do want the President to go further. I believe that he was well-intentioned but may be misadvised by those who would think that we had enough of the research elements that could do the vast massive research that needs to be done. This research act has shown that the broader, the better, the fuller, the better.

Let me congratulate the gentleman on the number of centers that already exist. We look forward to helping the funding expand, not frivolously, but so that centers could be expanded across the country. I would certainly welcome one in Houston, Texas.

Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman for, one, having the insight to be at the forefront of the reauthorization of this legislation. Let me also say that I would willingly join as an original co-sponsor of this legislation and offer to say to those who have been suffering from Parkinson's for time before and today and tomorrow that we will continue to fight until we can find a cure.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for her remarks and for her vision as well.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I would like to urge all of the Members of this body to join us in a bipartisan fashion when we introduce this legislation in the next couple of weeks to reauthorize the Udall Act.

I want to thank, in particular, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON), the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EVANS), and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for their support and hard work on behalf of all the people and all the families who suffer from Parkinson's disease. I know we will do the right thing in this body and reauthorize this very, very important act and we can all be proud

when we find the cure for Parkinson's sooner rather than later.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the fourth anniversary of the passage of the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Act. I cannot think of a more fitting tribute to my friend and colleague than this legislation.

Mo Udall was a member of the House Representatives for thirty years from 1961–1990. He earned the respect of all who served with him through his humor and civility as well as his ability to work with Members from both sides of the aisle. Mo's courage and determination to continue to serve even after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 1978 was an inspiration for all who had the privilege to be around him during that time. He was determined to continue to lead a full and vigorous life even in the face of this debilitating disease. Although his death in 1998 was a blow to all of us, his legacy lives on in the great and important work started through this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, Parkinson's disease afflicts 1 million Americans, 40 percent of whom are under the age of 60. This landmark legislation dramatically expanded and coordinated clinical research into Parkinson's disease as well as established the Morris K. Udall Centers across the country. These centers have been an invaluable resource in the fight against Parkinson's disease. They have provided state-of-the-art training facilities for new researchers and the resulting work has greatly increased our knowledge and understanding of the disease.

We have an opportunity and an obligation today to rededicate ourselves to the goal of finding a cure for Parkinson's disease. Our initial investment into research four years ago has yielded impressive returns. Still, however, much more needs to be done. Mr. Speaker, I call on Congress to continue the valuable work we started four years ago and fully fund federal research into Parkinson's disease done by the National Institutes of Health and the Morris K. Udall Centers.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I commemorate today the anniversary of the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research Act, and I am pleased to be here among other champions of the cause from the Parkinson's Working Group here in the House.

Mo Udall was more than a colleague. He was a friend. We didn't always agree on politics, but we could always share a laugh. I remember flying him around on my plane in NM. And, I remember helping to pick up his papers when they fell to the ground in the Interior Committee.

But, this anniversary honors more than Mo Udall. It honors our commitment to helping science keep its promise. It has been more than fifteen years since America began to hear that a cure for Parkinson's was just around the corner, . . . perhaps just five years away. Yet it is not here yet. This Udall Act of 1997 was the first time we put the money where science's mouth was. Thanks to NIH, the U.S. Army, Udall Centers of Excellence, and private research carried on largely thanks to an outstanding advocacy community, we are still on target.

As this Anniversary hits . . . it also marks the sunset of the bill. Perhaps it is time we reauthorize it. Let us continue to help science keep its promise. Thank you.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, we are here today to honor the memory of one of our great former colleagues, the late Mo Udall, who served in this House for nearly three decades. Four years ago this week, Congress passed the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Disease Research Act as a tribute to his service and the courage that he displayed in the face of his illness. Sadly, Mo lost his battle with Parkinson's Disease in 1998. But his memory lives on in this Congress and in the research labs across the country that bear his name.

I served with Mo Udall from 1983 to his retirement in 1990. During those years, I came to know and admire him as an effective legislator, a consummate humorist, and a dear friend. Mo always had a kind word and a joke for everyone. He brought a levity to this body that you wouldn't expect from someone fighting for his life. Ask anyone here who had the pleasure to serve with Mo and they will have a side splitting tale of the time that Mo brought the house down. Coupled with his good humor, was a commitment to serve this nation well. Despite his Parkinson's Disease, he served as chairman of the Interior Committee where he was a champion of preserving America's wilderness areas. I admired Mo then, but my esteem for him grew even greater when I was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 1995.

Our purpose here is to commemorate the passage of the Udall Act, which brings much needed resources to the study of Parkinson's Disease. The time has come to reauthorize the bill. And today, we have the honor of being joined by Mo's son, Congressman MARK UDALL, who will lead the charge to see this program continued. We will be introducing the reauthorization bill in the coming month. I hope that all of our colleagues will join us in supporting that bill.

The 11 Morris K. Udall Centers are busy conducting research on every aspect of Parkinson's Disease. The scientists there are some of the best and the brightest in their field. They believe that a cure for Parkinson's Disease is on the horizon—that it could be discovered in as little as five years. These researching give me hope. They are out there everyday working to make my life and the lives of the one million Americans living with Parkinson's Disease better. And let me tell you—it's nice having these bright men and women on your side. I know they will find a cure, but they can't do it without our continued support.

These Udall Centers are just one component of a larger effort on the part of NIH to develop more effective treatments, enhance prevention efforts, and eventually find a cure for Parkinson's Disease. At the request of Congress, NIH developed a five year Parkinson's Disease Research Agenda to bring the nation closer to a cure. Last year, we funded the first year of that agenda. This year, we must fund the second year by increasing funding for Parkinson's Disease research by \$143 million. I am hopeful that the Appropriations Committee will follow through with what it started and honor Congress' commitment to the NIH Research Agenda.

These initiatives are the lifeblood of the Parkinson's community. The Udall Centers and the NIH funded research are leading the world in the path to a cure. I encourage my colleagues support these programs.