

to the point where he could not continue his official duties. He used to come to the floor and beg for this bill to pass so others suffering from Parkinson's would have a chance.

I dedicate my vote in support of this bill in support of Lane Evans, the veterans, and so many others who are counting on us to move this research forward. Dr. Elias Zerhouni, the Director of the NIH, stated our Nation would be better served if federally funded scientists had access to embryonic stem cells for research. He separated himself from the Bush administration's official position. He said:

It is not possible for me to know how we can continue the momentum of science and research with the stem cell lines we have at NIH that can't be funded. From my standpoint as director of the NIH, it is in the best interest of our scientists, our science, and our country that we find ways and the nation finds a way to go full speed across adult and embryonic stem cells equally.

I am not going to argue against research using cord blood, adult stem cells, the type of stem cells described by Senator ISAKSON in his bill. But I think we have a moral obligation to the men and women who are counting on us to open this research to find cures. This is our chance, with passage of this bill.

I will vote in favor of both S. 5, the Harkin bill, and S. 30, the Isakson bill, to support all ways of deriving stem cells in a positive way to save lives. If you are in favor of human life and making it better, this is your chance. What matters most in this debate is that we aim to make good on the promises we vowed to keep. Let's support the research that can lessen so much pain for so many and support S. 5.

I reserve the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I will be brief. I will take a portion of the remainder of our time and yield back the rest. I compliment Senator DURBIN on his excellent remarks. Referring back to Senator DORGAN's and Senator SMITH's speeches and so many other speeches, I think this has been a terrific debate.

I compliment the Senator from Iowa tremendously. We all gained a great deal of education. I think, with rare exception, we have seen exhibited a passion to further embryonic stem cell research. The questions are not if that is what we should do but how we go about doing it.

What I have tried to do, and Senator HARKIN and I had a great exchange last night when we educated one another on our positions, but what I tried to do is open a door that already existed, a door that brought about 5 of the 21 embryonic stem cell lines that are currently under NIH approval. But as Senator HARKIN and others have stated, those lines have now been experimented on for 5½ years, using mice, they have developed pollution or less-than-quality lines. It is time for us to find a way to further the science, to

reach out for those discoveries and do so. S. 30, which I am here to advocate for, affords that opportunity because it allows the NIH to invest future funds in embryonic stem cell research on embryos derived from Level III Gardner principle remainders and in vitro fertilization, arrested embryos, as they are referred to in some cases, dead embryos as referred to in other cases, but in all cases embryos that are no longer going to become a life but do generate and contain pluripotent embryonic stem cells.

In the end, I feel that approach satisfies the questions raised at the White House and affords us an opportunity of a bill that will be signed by the President and does what everybody on this floor supports, with rare exception, I believe, or maybe no exception once done, and that is the expansion and the extension of the research.

I end where I began with my remarks a minute ago. I compliment Senator HARKIN and others who have spoken and the advocacy that has been here today and the level and quality of this debate on this subject. I look forward to this afternoon and the remaining 3 hours as we lead up to the votes.

I guess I would say the same thing the Senator from Iowa would say. If any Members want to speak this afternoon, it is time to let us know now rather than later because we will have 3 hours equally divided between four different groups.

With that said, I yield back the remainder of my time.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now stand in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will stand in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:23 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Acting President pro tempore.

STEM CELL RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2007

HOPE OFFERED THROUGH PRINCIPLED AND ETHICAL STEM CELL RESEARCH ACT—Continued

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum and ask that the time that runs count equally

against both sides for the remainder of the debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator STEVENS be added as a cosponsor of S. 5.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWNBACK. I believe under the previous agreement I have 30 minutes at this time, may I inquire of the Chair?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Approximately 30 minutes—44 minutes, the Senator has.

Mr. BROWNBACK. I want to introduce to the body, into the discussion, a gentleman I had a chance to meet who came in front of a Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Subcommittee—Keone Penn. I have a picture of this young man here. I want to share his story. He was cured of sickle cell anemia. We use that term advisedly, but clearly, cured of sickle cell anemia through cord blood adult stem cell treatment—cured.

I want to do part of this to encourage other people out there who might by chance be listening or know somebody else who has sickle cell anemia who has not yet been able to get treated; to talk about cures using cord blood. We have cord blood banking. That is taking place. Cord blood is the blood between the mother and the child when the child is in the womb, and the use of it, which we have now banked—10,000 units roughly have been banked and used throughout the country for many types of illnesses and sicknesses. I want to talk about curing sickle cell anemia in some cases using cord blood.

Sickle cell anemia is a disease that afflicts more than 70,000 Americans and a disproportionate number of African Americans. Keone tells the story the best so I will just highlight what he stated in front of a Senate science subcommittee hearing that I chaired. He said:

My name is Keone Penn. Two days ago I turned 17 years old. Five years ago they said I wouldn't live to be 17. They said I'd be dead within 5 years.