thousand pounds to over 7 million pounds in 2000. According to this year’s recorded import numbers, imports are reaching levels of 2 million pounds per month and on target to reach over 20 million pounds in this year alone. As of May this year, Vietnamese imports of frozen fish fillets were equivalent to 20 percent of the sales of the United States farm-raised frozen fillets.

There are over 189,000 acres of land in catfish production, of which 110,000 are in my home state of Mississippi. U.S. catfish farmers produce 600 million pounds of farm-raised catfish annually and require 1.8 billion pounds of feed. This supports over 90,000 acres of corn, 500,000 acres of soybeans, and cotton seed from over 250,000 acres of cotton.

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

SPREE OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 10, 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, along 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.

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 Udall Parkinson’s Centers across the country, 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 Five Year NIH 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 for Parkinson’s Disease research. But this is only year-one funding of the Five Year NIH Plan for Parkinson’s Disease Research. We have to remain vigilant and keep the pressure on.

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