

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the purposes of carrying out this section, section 301, and this title with respect to research focused on Parkinson’s disease, there are authorized to be appropriated not to exceed such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2012.”.

HENRY FORD HEALTH SYSTEM,

*Detroit, MI, December 12, 2005.*

Re Morris K. Udall Parkinson’s Disease Research Act Amendments of 2005.

Hon. DEBBIE STABENOW,  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR STABENOW: The Henry Ford Health System strongly supports your legislation which would reauthorize the Morris K. Udall Parkinson’s Disease Research Centers and allow an expansion of this important research to other states, including Michigan.

The Henry Ford Health System has been engaged in significant Parkinson’s Disease research for many years, with published research on linkages between Parkinson’s Disease and occupational exposure to lead, copper and agricultural pesticides, as well as life-style going back to 1993. The etiology of Parkinson’s Disease is considered to have a strong environmental component, but relatively few studies have investigated the potential association between occupation and the disease. The HFHS research is enriched by our strong clinical and research programs in Neurology, Biostatistics, and Research Epidemiology at the HFHS Health Sciences Center, as well as our formal affiliation with Wayne State University and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Center in Molecular and Cellular Toxicology with Human Applications at WSU.

Henry Ford Health System provides healthcare to more than 1 million patients, including approximately 25% of residents in the greater Southeast Michigan region, as well as many patients from virtually every state in the nation. Patients are drawn to Henry Ford Health System because of important advancements in diagnostics and treatment that may not be readily available elsewhere. Because of our ability to combine research with our strong clinical programs, HFHS offers an ideal setting for the kinds of changes called for in this legislation. We believe the intent to focus more of the National Institutes of Health Parkinson’s dollars on translational research and therapies will bring a strong return on investment and lead to better treatments for more than one million Americans fighting Parkinson’s disease.

Thank you for your leadership on this important health care issue. We appreciate your dedication and support for funding the research that can eventually lead to a cure for Parkinson’s Disease. We look forward to working with you on this legislation and offer our assistance in achieving the positive changes called for in the Udall Act Amendments.

Sincerely,

NANCY M. SCHLICHTING,  
*President & CEO.*

PARKINSON’S ACTION NETWORK,  
*Washington, DC, November 1, 2005.*

Hon. DEBBIE STABENOW,  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.  
Hon. GORDON SMITH,  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR STABENOW AND SENATOR SMITH: The Parkinson’s community strongly supports your legislation, the Morris K. Udall Parkinson’s Disease Research Act Amendments of 2005.

Recognizing the need to accelerate the pace of Parkinson’s disease research, Congress passed the Morris K. Udall Parkinson’s Research Act of 1997 (Udall Act) and it was signed into law. The Udall Act Amendments builds on the historic 1997 Udall Act to strengthen and focus critical Parkinson’s disease research.

Your legislation will ensure that NIH-funded research will hasten discovery of better treatments and a cure for Parkinson’s disease. We believe the positive changes called for in the Udall Act Amendments will require the NIH to focus more of its Parkinson’s dollars on translational research and therapies, recognize the unique aspects of the Udall Centers, and give us a stronger understanding of who is impacted by this devastating disease and why. We are confident that the Udall Act Amendments will ensure that federally-funded Parkinson’s disease research brings the strongest return on investment possible and will ultimately lead to better treatments and a cure for the more than one million Americans fighting Parkinson’s disease.

The Parkinson’s community applauds your legislation and looks forward to working with you to ease the burden and find a cure for Parkinson’s disease. We thank you for your leadership and dedicated efforts on behalf of the entire Parkinson’s community.

Sincerely,

JOEL GERSTEL,  
*American Parkinson  
Disease Association.*

AMY COMSTOCK,  
*Parkinson’s Action  
Network.*

DEBI BROOKS,  
*The Michael J. Fox  
Foundation for Par-  
kinson’s Research.*

JOSE GARCIA-PEDROSA,  
*National Parkinson  
Foundation.*

ROBIN ELLIOTT,  
*Parkinson’s Disease  
Foundation.*

CAROL WALTON,  
*The Parkinson Alli-  
ance.*

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 334—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF WILLIAM PROXMIRE, FORMER UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. KOHL, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURNS, Mr. BURR, Mr. BYRD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DODD, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTEN-

BERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. TALENT, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VITTER, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 334

Whereas William Proxmire served in the Military Intelligence Service of the United States Army from 1941 to 1946;

Whereas William Proxmire served the people of Wisconsin with distinction from 1957 to 1989 in the United States Senate;

Whereas William Proxmire served the Senate as Chairman of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs in the ninety-fourth to ninety-sixth and one hundredth Congresses;

Whereas William Proxmire held the longest unbroken record for rollcall votes in the Senate;

Whereas William Proxmire tirelessly fought government waste, issuing monthly “Golden Fleece” awards beginning in 1975 for the “biggest or most ridiculous or most ironic example of government waste;”

Whereas William Proxmire worked endlessly to eradicate the world of genocide, culminating in the ratification by the Senate of an international treaty outlawing genocide;

*Resolved*, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable William Proxmire, former member of the United States Senate.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

*Resolved*, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Honorable William Proxmire.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 70—URGING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO WITHDRAW THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION AS PASSED IN ITS FIRST READING THE STATE DUMA THAT WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF SEVERELY RESTRICTING THE ESTABLISHMENT, OPERATIONS, AND ACTIVITIES OF DOMESTIC, INTERNATIONAL, AND FOREIGN NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, OR TO MODIFY THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO ENTIRELY REMOVE THESE RESTRICTIONS

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. LIEBERMAN) submitted the following concurrent resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

## S. CON. RES. 70

Whereas Russian Federation President Putin has stated that “modern Russia’s greatest achievement is the democratic process (and) the achievements of our civil society”;

Whereas the unobstructed establishment and free and autonomous operations and activities of nongovernmental organizations and a robust civil society free from excessive government control are central and indispensable elements of a democratic society;

Whereas the free and autonomous operations of nongovernmental organizations in any society necessarily encompass activities, including political activities, that may be contrary to government policies;

Whereas domestic, international, and foreign nongovernmental organizations are crucial in assisting the Russian Federation and the Russian people in tackling the many challenges they face, including in such areas as education, infectious diseases, and the establishment of a flourishing democracy;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has proposed legislation that would have the effect of severely restricting the establishment, operations, and activities of domestic, international, and foreign nongovernmental organizations in the Russian Federation, including erecting unprecedented barriers to foreign assistance;

Whereas the State Duma of the Russian Federation is considering the first draft of such legislation;

Whereas the restrictions in the first draft of this legislation would impose disabling restraints on the establishment, operations, and activities of nongovernmental organizations and on civil society throughout the Russian Federation, regardless of the stated intent of the Government of the Russian Federation;

Whereas the stated concerns of the Government of the Russian Federation regarding the use of nongovernmental organizations by foreign interests and intelligence agencies to undermine the Government of the Russian Federation and the security of the Russian Federation as a whole can be fully addressed without imposing disabling restraints on nongovernmental organizations and on civil society;

Whereas there is active debate underway in the Russian Federation over concerns regarding such restrictions on nongovernmental organizations;

Whereas the State Duma and the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly play a central role in the system of checks and balances that are prerequisites for a democracy;

Whereas the first draft of the proposed legislation has already passed its first reading in the State Duma;

Whereas President Putin has indicated his desire for changes in the first draft that would “correspond more closely to the principles according to which civil society functions”; and

Whereas Russia’s destiny and the interests of her people lie in her assumption of her rightful place as a full and equal member of the international community of democracies: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—*

(1) urges the Government of the Russian Federation to withdraw the first draft of the proposed legislation that would have the effect of severely restricting the establishment, operations, and activities of domestic, international, and foreign nongovernmental organizations in the Russian Federation, or to modify the proposed legislation to entirely remove these restrictions; and

(2) in the event that the first draft of the proposed legislation is not withdrawn, urges

the State Duma and the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly to modify the legislation to ensure the unobstructed establishment and free and autonomous operations and activities of such nongovernmental organizations in accordance with the practices universally adopted by democracies, including the provisions regarding foreign assistance.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 71—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT STATES SHOULD REQUIRE CANDIDATES FOR DRIVER’S LICENSES TO DEMONSTRATE AN ABILITY TO EXERCISE GREATLY INCREASED CAUTION WHEN DRIVING IN THE PROXIMITY OF A POTENTIALLY VISUALLY IMPAIRED INDIVIDUAL

Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. SALAZAR) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

## S. CON. RES. 71

Whereas many people in the United States who are blind or otherwise visually impaired have the ability to travel throughout their communities without assistance;

Whereas visually impaired individuals encounter hazards that a pedestrian with average vision could easily avoid, many of which involve crossing streets and roadways;

Whereas the white cane and guide dog should be generally recognized as aids to mobility for visually impaired individuals;

Whereas many States do not require candidates for driver’s licenses to associate the use of the white cane or guide dog with potentially visually impaired individuals; and

Whereas visually impaired individuals have had their white canes and guide dogs run over by motor vehicles, have been struck by the side view mirrors of motor vehicles, and have suffered serious personal injury and death as the result of being hit by motor vehicles: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that each State should require any candidate for a driver’s license in such State to demonstrate, as a condition of obtaining a driver’s license, an ability to associate the use of the white cane and guide dog with visually impaired individuals and to exercise greatly increased caution when driving in proximity to a potentially visually impaired individual.*

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2677. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. STEVENS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1390, to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

SA 2678. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. STEVENS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1390, supra.

SA 2679. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. AKAKA) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 218, recognizing the centennial of sustained immigration from the Philippines to the United States and acknowledging the contributions of our Filipino-American community to our country over the last century.

## TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2677. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. STEVENS) proposed an amendment to

the bill S. 1390, to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 3, beginning in line 24, strike “impacts or other physical damage to coral reefs, including” and insert “impacts, derrick fishing gear, vessel anchors and anchor chains, or”.

SA 2678. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. STEVENS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1390, to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 4, strike lines 14 through 19, and insert the following:

“(2) leverage resources of other agencies.”.

SA 2679. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. AKAKA) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 218, recognizing the centennial of sustained immigration from the Philippines to the United States and acknowledging the contributions of our Filipino-American community to our country over the last century; as follows:

Beginning in page 4, line 8, strike “requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on” and insert “urges”.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

## COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, December 15, 2005, at 10 a.m. on pending committee business.

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

## COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Thursday, December 15, 2005, at 10 a.m., for a hearing titled, “Hurricane Katrina: Who’s In Charge of the New Orleans Levees?”.

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

## COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to hold an off-the-floor markup during the session on Thursday, December 15, 2005, to consider the nominations of George W. Foresman to be Under Secretary for Preparedness, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and Mary M. Rose to be Member, Merit Systems Protection Board.

## Agenda

## Nominations

(1) George W. Foresman to be Under Secretary for Preparedness, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

(2) Mary M. Rose to be Member, Merit Systems Protection Board.