

stresses that importance. I hope all Members will join me to pass this legislation.

JONES ACT RESOLUTION

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, today, I and my distinguished colleague on the Rules Committee, Mr. MOAKLEY, join a bipartisan group of our colleagues in introducing a resolution that will strongly reaffirm the Congress' support for the Jones Act—section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act of 1920.

The Jones Act has its origins in the earliest days of our Nation. Its basic requirement is that any vessel used to transport cargo between ports in the United States must be built in the United States, registered under the U.S. flag, and carrying a crew made up of U.S. citizens. Relying on American ships and crewmembers, the Jones Act provides tangible benefits for our national defense. The Jones Act fleet provides the experience needed to maintain trained and loyal American-citizen merchant mariners. Our merchant marine vessels, both private sector and Government owned, rely on the abilities of these merchant mariners to operate. Without the Jones Act, we jeopardize our national security interests and place our men and women in the Armed Forces in tremendous danger.

As important as our national security, our Jones Act fleet is also an essential part of the transportation industry in this country. The fleet contributes approximately \$15 billion a year to our economy and employs 124,000 American workers. Because of the Jones Act, the United States will always have a safe and reliable maritime system.

With these important benefits in mind, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support this resolution and to reaffirm in the strongest possible terms our support for the Jones Act.

This resolution spells out, loud and clear, that Congress will not allow the Jones Act to be weakened. It says that we will not allow substandard foreign-flag vessel—and their foreign crewmembers who are paid less than minimum wage—to push the U.S.-flag fleet out of its own market. It declares that if we did not have the Jones Act, these same foreign-flag vessels, free of virtually all U.S. laws and taxes, would also be able to compete unfairly against our domestic trucking, railroad, and pipeline industries. This resolution says that we will not allow that to happen.

This resolution says we are not going to hand over an entire American industry to foreign operators. More than 40 other maritime nations have laws similar to the Jones Act, and in this country we have similar laws that preserve our other transportation markets—like trucking and aviation—to American companies and American workers. With this resolution, Congress reasserts this Nation's commitment to maintaining a strong domestic maritime industry—with American ships and American workers.

This resolution promotes fairness to American businesses and American working men and women. It promotes our commitment to a strong national defense with no cost to the taxpayer. It promotes a safe and reliable na-

tional transportation system. And it promotes a vital sector of our economy. I ask my colleagues to join in supporting this resolution.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RHODE ISLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 1997

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to your attention the momentous occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Rhode Island Audubon Society.

Founded as the State's first environmental organization, the Audubon Society of Rhode Island was originally established to protect birds from the feather trade. It now actively addresses a wide range of natural resources and environmental issues and is dedicated to advocacy, education, natural area protection, and land management. The Audubon Society of Rhode Island independently protects over 8,000 acres of coastal property and woodlands of diverse natural habitats. Each year, over 15,000 students and teachers statewide participate in environmental education programs ranging from classroom sessions, natural history field trips, summer camps, and teacher workshops and trainings.

Serving the second most densely populated State in the Nation, one with limited natural resources and an industrial economy, the Audubon Society of Rhode Island actively fulfills its environmental stewardship through preservation and protection of Rhode Island's treasured natural heritage.

With 3,500 members, the Audubon Society of Rhode Island is a very respected voice in local ecological issues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, the members of the Audubon Society of Rhode Island and the State of Rhode Island, in recognizing the momentous occasion of the founding of the Audubon Society of Rhode Island, and expressing our warmest appreciation and thanks for a century of dedication to improving the quality of environment for wildlife and for humans alike. We wish them another 100 years of success.

ON THE DEATH OF FORMER ISRAELI PRESIDENT CHAIM HERZOG

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, we were all saddened today to learn of the passing of the former President of Israel, Chaim Herzog. Mr. Herzog's life mirrored the birth and early history of the State of Israel. During his career, he served as a distinguished soldier, author, and diplomat.

Mr. Herzog was born in Belfast, Ireland, in 1918, the son of a rabbi, and immigrated to mandatory Palestine in 1935. He served as an officer in the British Army during the Second World War, and landed with Allied troops at Normandy in 1944.

Later he served with distinction in defending Israel from Arab attack during Israel's war of

independence in 1948. After the June 1967 war, Mr. Herzog was appointed Israel's first military governor of the West Bank.

In the 1970's, he served at the Israeli Embassy in Washington, and was later named Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations. He was the author of several books, including "Israel's Finest Hour," a historical account of the 1967 war. Mr. Herzog was elected Israel's President in 1983.

Mr. Speaker, Chaim Herzog has been described by his contemporaries as "a man of war who loved peace." The American people extend to his family and to the people of Israel their deepest condolences for the passing of a man who has helped shape the history of Israel, and who was a lover of peace.

[From the Washington Post]

FORMER ISRAELI PRESIDENT HERZOG DIES

(By Dafna Linzer)

JERUSALEM (AP)—Chaim Herzog, Israel's longest-serving president as well as a distinguished soldier, author and diplomat, died today. He was 78.

Herzog suffered heart failure after contracting pneumonia during a recent visit to the United States, said Rachel Sofer, spokeswoman of Tel Hashomer Hospital in Tel Aviv.

When Herzog became Israel's sixth president in 1983, the country was divided by the war in Lebanon and facing international isolation. During his 10 years in the largely ceremonial post, Herzog made 45 visits abroad and was credited with helping to shape Israel's image internationally.

He got mixed reviews, however, when he set free Shin Bet secret service agents in 1986 who were accused of murdering two Palestinian militants. Four years later, he pardoned members of the Jewish underground convicted of attacking Palestinians.

Speaking in 1993, Herzog said his pardons saved the morale and effectiveness of Shin Bet after the scandal known as "Bus 300." The agency had tried to frame Yitzhak Mordechai, the current defense minister but at the time an army commander, for the deaths of two Palestinian bus hijackers. It was later learned that Shin Bet ordered the killings.

Born Vivian Herzog in Belfast on Sept. 17, 1918, Herzog was Ireland's bantamweight boxing champion before immigrating to pre-state Palestine in 1935. His father, Isaac Herzog, became the first Ashkenazi chief rabbi when Israel gained independence in 1948.

During World War II, he was an officer in the British army, landing with the allied troops in Normandy. He was one of the last British officers to question Nazi Gen. Heinrich Himmler before he committed suicide in prison.

President Ezer Weizman, who served in battle with Herzog in the 1948 War of Independence, described him as a "talented man and good friend."

Shimon Peres, the former premier and Labor Party leader, called Herzog "a man of war who loved peace."

"Herzog was the most statesman-like man in Israel. He was a military man, a president, son of rabbis and man of the modern age," Peres said on Israel radio.

Following the war, he was named the first military governor of the West Bank, which Israel captured from Jordan in the 1967 Middle East War. The aristocratic Herzog won plaudits for his commentaries during the war, when his balanced and soothing reports put the nation at ease.

Later, he became the first head of Israeli military intelligence, served as U.S. military attache in Washington, and in 1975, was appointed Israel's ambassador to the United Nations.

During his three-year stint as U.N. ambassador, he made a celebrated but unsuccessful defense of his country against a resolution equating Zionism with racism.

He ripped up a copy of the resolution while speaking at the podium. That year he also wrote "The War of Atonement," an account of the 1973 Yom Kippur war and its political effects.

Among his other books was a historical look at the 1967 war entitled "Israel's Finest Hour."

In 1978, Herzog returned to Israel and opened a law practice in Tel Aviv. He was voted into parliament as a Labor representative in 1981.

In March 1983, he was elected president, overcoming intense opposition from the right-wing Likud party, headed by then-premier Menachem Begin.

When he took office, Herzog vowed to be a "people's president," but he lacked the common touch for the rough-and-tumble of Israeli political culture.

"He acted like a European, with European culture, grace and dignity. He tried to be folksy, but it was hard in a three-piece suit," said Gabi Brun, who covered the presidency for the daily Yedioth Ahronot for 20 years.

Herzog adopted the traditional president's role as the watchdog of the country's morality, decrying racial intolerance and religious strife.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PARKINSON'S RESEARCH ACT OF 1997

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 1997

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will provide for and coordinate greater research efforts on Parkinson's disease. I am introducing this bill for two reasons.

First, I support expanding life-affirming research on Parkinson's. Increasing resources to find a cure is not only a compassionate response to the suffering experienced by over 500,000 Americans, but it is a wise and economical use of our nation's tax dollars. In addition to the human tragedy resulting from the condition, Parkinson's patient advocates note that this terrible disease costs our society some \$25 billion a year in direct medical expenses and reduced productivity. Parkinson's is a progressive and debilitating disease that affects a large segment of our population. Therefore, the discovery of a cure or an effective treatment will pay dividends far in excess of the \$100 million in authorized funds provided in this bill.

As you already know, Parkinson's disease results from a degenerative condition in the brain whereby nerve cells lose the ability to produce the neurotransmitting chemical dopamine. Common symptoms include trem-

ors—particularly in the extremities—rigidity, loss of balance, and bradykinesia, or very slow movements.

Parkinson's disease is an incurable condition which afflicts roughly 1 in every 100 people over the age of 60. Existing treatments, such as L-dopa, a pharmaceutical substitute for dopamine, and pallidotomy, a surgical technique which can relieve symptoms, are not long-term solutions, and their effectiveness diminishes over time.

While new drugs, medical devices, and surgical techniques which offer symptom relief are all extremely important, a real cure requires the ability to halt the neurodegenerative cycle and repair damaged brain cells. This year, it is estimated that another 50,000 Americans will be diagnosed with Parkinson's disease.

Despite these troubling numbers, Parkinson's disease does not get the attention it deserves in our federal medical research institutes. Patient advocates correctly note that while federally funded medical research spends roughly \$1,000 per person with AIDS, and \$255 per person with cancer, Parkinson's disease receives only \$21 per person in research from NIH. This does not mean that other, more prominently discussed, diseases and conditions should receive less, but it does mean that more Parkinson's research is desperately needed, and soon.

Second, I continue to have a serious concern that under the Morris K. Udall Parkinson's Research bill—H.R. 1260—introduced by our colleagues from Michigan and California, NIH could expand its research using tissue from intentionally aborted babies. As someone with a deep respect for life during all of its phases, I find the exploitation of these murdered innocents simply unethical. The end, even though I agree it is very worthy, does not justify immoral means.

The Parkinson's research expansion bill being introduced today by me and 12 of our colleagues addresses this concern. It authorizes the same research funding level as the Udall bill, but bars the use of these funds for research using tissue from aborted babies. Unlike the Udall bill, this legislation will ensure that 100 percent of the funds authorized for Parkinson's research are ethically unimpeachable and noncontroversial.

Let me be clear: Parkinson's research is vitally important and should be increased. However, unborn children should not be exploited in the process. In fact, were the Udall bill to come up before the House with the pro-life safeguards included in my legislation, I would enthusiastically support it.

Unfortunately, there is a well-founded concern with respect to the issue of fetal tissue research. In January 1993, one of President Clinton's first acts was to overturn a Bush administration policy prohibiting NIH funding of research involving the transplantation of fetal

tissue from intentionally aborted babies. In June 1993, a new NIH bill specifically authorized NIH funding of human fetal tissue transplantation research using tissue from any source: ectopic pregnancies, miscarriages, and induced abortions.

Since 1993, there have been four awards by NIH for research on human fetal tissue transplantation, and every single one of them has been in the area of Parkinson's research. So the fetal tissue research issue is clearly relevant to a bill dealing with research to find treatments for Parkinson's disease.

Another reason pro-life people have reason to be concerned about the issue of fetal tissue research as it relates to Parkinson's is provided by an April 1996 article in *The Washingtonian*. In that article, Morton Kondracke writes that the "fight over lifting a ban on federal funding of fetal-transplant research is what got Joan Samuelson into Parkinson's activism." Joan Samuelson, as you may know, is the president of the Parkinson's Action Network, which is the principal organization lobbying Members of Congress to cosponsor H.R. 1260.

Of course, there is nothing improper about people or organizations lobbying Congress to endorse fetal tissue research. If people disagree with my view on this issue, that is their right. However, many Members of Congress have been given the impression that there is absolutely no connection whatsoever between fetal tissue research and Parkinson's disease. To the contrary, my colleagues should understand that the forces urging them to cosponsor H.R. 1260 are substantially similar to the forces that lobbied Congress during the Bush administration to endorse fetal tissue research involving intentionally aborted unborn children. Many of the same players also opposed an amendment to the NIH reauthorization bill in 1993 which would have ensured that all of the safeguards recommended by an NIH advisory panel were in place before tax dollars were used for fetal tissue transplantation research.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, the legislation I am offering is identical to the Udall bill both in structure and in the funding authorization provided. The only differences between my bill and the Udall bill are: First, the title, to prevent confusion; and second, the pro-life protections contained in the bill. Everything else is identical.

Therefore, there is no debate over the commitment to fighting Parkinson's disease. There is no debate over funding levels. There is no debate over the structure of the new program. Indeed, if we could simply focus Federal funding toward the overwhelming majority of Parkinson's research that is uncontroversial, there would be no debate, and the expansion of Parkinson's research could begin almost immediately.