

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) issued a statement praising the work done this year to increase support for biomedical research, and also pledged to continue the fight to find better treatments and a cure for Parkinson's disease

REID STATEMENT ON NATIONAL PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH

Washington, D.C. – April is National Parkinson's Awareness Month. Currently there are 1.5 million Americans living with Parkinson's disease and 60,000 new cases are diagnosed each year. Currently, there is no cure for this disease. Nevada Senator Harry Reid, who received the 2007 Udall Award for Public Service from the Parkinson's Action Network for his work to benefit individuals with Parkinson's disease, made the following statement:

"As we observe Parkinson's Awareness Month, we must build on our commitment to accelerate and increase federal support for Parkinson's research so that we can find a cure for this disease and end the hardships for the more than one million Americans who suffer from this disease and for their families. In just the first few months of this year, we have taken some crucial steps that will bring us closer to this goal. President Obama offered hope to individuals with Parkinson's Disease when he overturned our flawed stem cell policy of the past. And Congress has directed more than \$40 billion to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to fund biomedical research that will benefit a broad range of diseases and conditions, including Parkinson's disease. I look forward to continuing to support our best and brightest researches at the NIH and Department of Defense so we may find better treatments and ultimately a cure for Parkinson's disease."