Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 17, 2006

The Honorable George W. Bush
President
United States of America
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We are writing you today to urge you to sign into law H.R. 810, the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act. Additionally, should you decide to veto this legislation, we will vote to override your veto.

Embryonic stem cells hold the potential to change the lives of millions of Americans suffering from diabetes, cancer, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, spinal cord injuries and other diseases. Embryonic stem cells could alleviate untold human suffering and return individuals to their families and productive lives. In good conscience, we must explore research options that hold such potential.

H.R. 810 would allow for federal research funding for stem cells that are derived from embryos created for in vitro fertilization, that are not going to be used, and would be otherwise discarded. The couple for which the embryos are developed would have to knowingly and willingly consent to their donation.

On May 24, 2005, the House of Representatives passed this legislation by a vote of 238 to 194. The Senate is poised to consider H.R. 810 this week and is expected to also pass it.

As we are on the precipice of medical discovery the federal government must act as a catalyst for change, not an impediment. As such, we implore you to sign H.R. 810 into law should it be presented to you.

Sincerely,

Michael N. Castle
Member of Congress

Nancy L. Johnson
Member of Congress

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