

April 11, 2007

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Reid and Senator McConnell:

On behalf of the citizens of our states, we urge you and all the members of the U.S. Senate to vote to lift President Bush's restrictions on embryonic stem cell research and pass the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007 (S. 5).

Embryonic stem cell research holds the potential to cure some of the oldest and deadliest diseases - from Parkinson's to Alzheimer's to multiple sclerosis. However, these restrictions have delayed that research for far too long. Once again, Congress has a critical responsibility this week to do the right thing so that scientists can unlock cures to diseases we have long thought to be incurable.

In January, the U.S. House passed H.R. 3, the companion to S. 5, the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007, with strong bipartisan support. Last session nearly identical legislation passed both the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate with overwhelming bipartisan support, yet President Bush vetoed it.

The President is out of touch on this issue. Every day, thousands of families in our states struggle as a loved one suffers from juvenile diabetes, spinal cord injuries or other conditions that might be cured if restrictions are lifted. For over five years, these families have been forced to wait as the Bush policy has obstructed this vital research.

Once again, Congress has the opportunity to reverse a misguided stem cell policy. Overturning this policy will result in new federal investment in this important research and provide hope to families around the world suffering from terrible diseases.

Sincerely,



Governor Jim Doyle  
Wisconsin



Governor Kathleen Sebelius  
Kansas



Governor Bill Richardson  
New Mexico



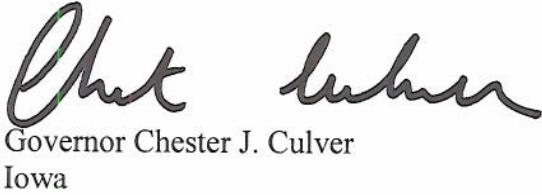
Governor Edward G. Rendell  
Pennsylvania



Governor Theodore R. Kulongoski  
Oregon



Governor Jennifer M. Granholm  
Michigan



Governor Chester J. Culver  
Iowa



Governor Rod Blagojevich  
Illinois



Governor Eliot Spitzer  
New York



Governor Ted Strickland  
Ohio