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Domestic Policy Council

Zinsmeister, W. Karl - Subject Files

Stack:	Row:	Sect.:	Shelf:	Pos.:	FRC ID:	Location or Hollinger ID:	NARA Number:	OA Number:
W	31	24	6	7	14303	88293	14062	14165

Folder Title:

Stem Cells 2007: Stem Cell Veto 2007 and Executive Order [2]

Withdrawn/Redacted Material

The George W. Bush Library

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
001	Email	[Email] - To: Karl Rove - From: Karl Zinsmeister	2	06/13/2007	P5; P6/b6;
002	Draft	[Draft]	2	N.D.	P5;
003	Email	RE: Stem Cell Event - To: Karl Zinsmeister	1	06/14/2007	P5;
004	Email	Tuesday Meetings? - To: Karl Zinsmeister - From: Christopher Papagianis	1	06/18/2007	P5;
005	Handwritten Note	S.C. Principals' Mtg Notes	2	06/2007	P5;
006	Draft	Frame	1	N.D.	P5;
007	Email	S.5 Veto Statement - To: John Marburger - From: Karl Zinsmeister	1	06/12/2007	P5;

COLLECTION TITLE:

Domestic Policy Council

SERIES:

Zinsmeister, W. Karl - Subject Files

FOLDER TITLE:

Stem Cells 2007: Stem Cell Veto 2007 and Executive Order [2]

FRC ID:

14303

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

Deed of Gift Restrictions

- A. Closed by Executive Order 13526 governing access to national security information.
- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Records Not Subject to FOIA

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DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
008	Email	RE: OSTP Comments to Veto Statement - To: Christopher Papagianis - From: Karl Zinsmeister	1	06/12/2007	P5;
009	Email	RE: - To: Karl Zinsmeister - From: Kevin Sullivan	1	06/18/2007	P5;
010	Email	RE: Stem Cell Qs - To: Karl Zinsmeister, et al. - From: Christopher Papagianis	1	06/18/2007	P5;
011	Email	RE: Stem Cell Guidance - To: Karl Zinsmeister, et al. - From: John Marburger	1	06/18/2007	P5;
012	Email	RE: Stem Cell Guidance - To: John Marburger, et al. - From: Karl Zinsmeister	3	06/18/2007	P5;
013	Draft	[Draft]	2	N.D.	P5;

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DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
014	Handwritten Note	[Notes]	1	N.D.	P5;
015	Draft	Draft Statement by the President	2	06/07/2007	P5;
016	Email	FOR REVIEW - Draft Statement on Passage of Stem Cell Bill - To: VP Staff Sec, et al. - From: Thomas Bowman	2	06/06/2007	P5;
017	Email	Re: Patients and Statement - To: Christopher Papagianis - From: Karl Zinsmeister	3	06/06/2007	P5;
018	Email	Re: EO - To: Christopher Papagianis - From: Karl Zinsmeister	1	06/06/2007	P5;
019	Handwritten Note	[Notes]	1	N.D.	P5;

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020	Email	[Email] - To: Karl Zinsmeister - From: Christopher Papagianis	1	06/06/2007	P5;
021	Email	Statement by the President - To: Christopher Papagianis	2	04/11/2007	P5;
022	Email	Today's Stem Cell Papers - To: Christopher Papagianis - From: Yuval Levin	1	06/06/2007	P5;
023	Email	RE: - To: Christopher Papagianis - From: Tevi Troy	1	06/06/2007	P5;

COLLECTION TITLE:

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Withdrawal Marker

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Email	[Email] - To: Karl Rove - From: Karl Zinsmeister	2	06/13/2007	P5; P6/b6;

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet at the front of the folder.**

COLLECTION:

Domestic Policy Council

SERIES:

Zinsmeister, W. Karl - Subject Files

FOLDER TITLE:

Stem Cells 2007: Stem Cell Veto 2007 and Executive Order [2]

FRC ID:

14303

OA Num.:

14165

NARA Num.:

14062

FOIA IDs and Segments:

2017-0029-F

2014-0503-F

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110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 5

AN ACT

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for
human embryonic stem cell research.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Stem Cell Research
5 Enhancement Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH.**

2 Part H of title IV of the Public Health Service Act
3 (42 U.S.C. 289 et seq.) is amended by inserting after sec-
4 tion 498C the following:

5 **"SEC. 498D. HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH.**

6 "(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other pro-
7 vision of law (including any regulation or guidance), the
8 Secretary shall conduct and support research that utilizes
9 human embryonic stem cells in accordance with this sec-
10 tion (regardless of the date on which the stem cells were
11 derived from a human embryo) .

12 "(b) ETHICAL REQUIREMENTS.—Human embryonic
13 stem cells shall be eligible for use in any research con-
14 ducted or supported by the Secretary if the cells meet each
15 of the following:

16 "(1) The stem cells were derived from human
17 embryos that have been donated from in vitro fer-
18 tilization clinics, were created for the purposes of
19 fertility treatment, and were in excess of the clinical
20 need of the individuals seeking such treatment.

21 "(2) Prior to the consideration of embryo dona-
22 tion and through consultation with the individuals
23 seeking fertility treatment, it was determined that
24 the embryos would never be implanted in a woman
25 and would otherwise be discarded.

1 research to develop techniques for the isolation, derivation,
2 production, or testing of stem cells that, like embryonic
3 stem cells, are capable of producing all or almost all of
4 the cell types of the developing body and may result in
5 improved understanding of or treatments for diseases and
6 other adverse health conditions, but are not derived from
7 a human embryo.

8 “(b) GUIDELINES.—Not later than 90 days after the
9 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary, after
10 consultation with the Director, shall issue final guidelines
11 to implement subsection (a), that—

12 “(1) provide guidance concerning the next steps
13 required for additional research, which shall include
14 a determination of the extent to which specific tech-
15 niques may require additional basic or animal re-
16 search to ensure that any research involving human
17 cells using these techniques would clearly be con-
18 sistent with the standards established under this sec-
19 tion;

20 “(2) prioritize research with the greatest poten-
21 tial for near-term clinical benefit; and

22 “(3) consistent with subsection (a), take into
23 account techniques outlined by the President’s Coun-
24 cil on Bioethics and any other appropriate tech-
25 niques and research.

1 “(c) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than
2 January 1 of each year, the Secretary shall prepare and
3 submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a
4 report describing the activities carried out under this sec-
5 tion during the fiscal year, including a description of the
6 research conducted under this section.

7 “(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
8 tion shall be construed to affect any policy, guideline, or
9 regulation regarding embryonic stem cell research, human
10 cloning by somatic cell nuclear transfer, or any other re-
11 search not specifically authorized by this section.

12 “(e) DEFINITION.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In this section, the term
14 ‘human embryo’ shall have the meaning given such
15 term in the applicable appropriations Act.

16 “(2) APPLICABLE ACT.—For purposes of para-
17 graph (1), the term ‘applicable appropriations Act’
18 means, with respect to the fiscal year in which re-
19 search is to be conducted or supported under this
20 section, the Act making appropriations for the De-
21 partment of Health and Human Services for such
22 fiscal year, except that if the Act for such fiscal year
23 does not contain the term referred to in paragraph
24 (1), the Act for the previous fiscal year shall be
25 deemed to be the applicable appropriations Act.

1 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-
3 essary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2010, to carry
4 out this section.”.

Passed the Senate April 11, 2007.

Attest:

Secretary.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

April 10, 2007
(Senate)

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

S. 5 – Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007

(Sen. Reid (D) NV and 39 cosponsors)

The Administration strongly opposes Senate passage of S. 5, which would use Federal taxpayer dollars to support and encourage the destruction of human life for research. The bill would compel all American taxpayers to pay for research that relies on the intentional destruction of human embryos for the derivation of stem cells, overturning the President's policy that funds research without promoting such ongoing destruction. If S. 5 were presented to the President, he would veto the bill.

The President strongly supports medical research and has worked with Congress to increase resources for the National Institutes of Health. This Administration is the first to provide Federal funds for human embryonic stem cell research and has done so without encouraging the destruction of human embryos. The President's policy permits the Federal funding of research using embryonic cell lines created prior to August 9, 2001, the date his policy was announced, along with stem cell research using other kinds of cell lines. Scientists can therefore explore the potential applications of such cells, but the Federal government does not offer incentives or encouragement for the destruction of human life.

Over the past six years, more than \$130 million in taxpayer dollars has been devoted to human embryonic stem cell research consistent with the President's policy. Overall, more than \$3 billion has gone to innovative research on all forms of stem cells, contributing to proven medical treatments that use human stem cells from adult and other non-embryonic sources. S. 5 seeks to replace the Administration's policy by providing Federal funding for the first time for a line of research that involves the intentional destruction of living human embryos for the derivation of their cells. Destroying nascent human life for research raises serious ethical problems, and millions of Americans consider the practice immoral. The Administration believes that government has a duty to use the people's money responsibly, both supporting important public purposes and respecting moral boundaries.

Alternative types of human stem cells – drawn from adults, children, umbilical-cord blood, and other non-embryonic sources, without doing harm to the donors – have already achieved therapeutic results in thousands of patients with many different diseases. Moreover, a recent series of encouraging research reports offer hope that stem cells drawn from non-embryonic sources may possess characteristics like those of embryonic stem cells. In addition, researchers are now working to develop promising new techniques to produce stem cells similar in nature to those derived from human embryos, but without harming or destroying embryos.

S. 5 clearly acknowledges the potential of these new advances and the importance of supporting

them. The provisions in the bill to promote research leading to new techniques for deriving the functional equivalent of embryonic stem cells, without harming or destroying human embryos, encourage science that is not in conflict with ethics.

Unfortunately, the bill then crosses that same ethical line, by proposing to use taxpayer dollars to encourage destruction of nascent human life for research. The Administration believes that research on alternative sources of stem cells is extremely promising and provides robust opportunities to advance science without compelling American taxpayers to participate in ongoing destruction of human embryos.

Moreover, private sector support and public funding by several States for this line of research, which will add up to several billion dollars in the coming few years, argue against the notion of any urgent shortfall of research funding. Whatever one's view of the ethical issues or the state of the research, the future of this field does not require a policy of Federal subsidies that is offensive to the moral principles of millions of Americans.

The President believes that by enacting appropriate policy safeguards while encouraging the development of novel scientific techniques, it is possible to advance scientific and medical frontiers without violating moral principles. S. 5 fails to find that balance and is therefore deeply troubling to millions of Americans. The President urges Congress to pass an alternative bill that would advance stem cell research without encouraging destruction of human life.

* * * * *

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 30

AN ACT

To intensify research to derive human pluripotent stem cell lines.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Hope Offered through
5 Principled and Ethical Stem Cell Research Act” or the
6 “HOPE Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

2 It is the purpose of this Act to—

3 (1) intensify research that may result in im-
4 proved understanding of or treatments for diseases
5 and other adverse health conditions; and

6 (2) promote the derivation of pluripotent stem
7 cell lines without the creation of human embryos for
8 research purposes and without the destruction or
9 discarding of, or risk of injury to, a human embryo
10 or embryos other than those that are naturally dead.

11 **SEC. 3. HUMAN PLURIPOTENT STEM CELL RESEARCH.**

12 Part H of title IV of the Public Health Service Act
13 (42 U.S.C. 289 et seq.) is amended by inserting after sec-
14 tion 498C the following:

15 **“SEC. 498D. HUMAN PLURIPOTENT STEM CELL RESEARCH.**

16 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct and
17 support basic and applied research to develop techniques
18 for the isolation, derivation, production, or testing of stem
19 cells, including pluripotent stem cells that have the flexi-
20 bility of embryonic stem cells (whether or not they have
21 an embryonic source), that may result in improved under-
22 standing of or treatments for diseases and other adverse
23 health conditions, provided that the isolation, derivation,
24 production, or testing of such cells will not involve—

25 “(1) the creation of a human embryo or em-
26 bryos for research purposes; or

1 “(2) the destruction or discarding of, or risk of
2 injury to, a human embryo or embryos other than
3 those that are naturally dead.

4 “(b) GUIDELINES.—Not later than 90 days after the
5 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary, after
6 consultation with the Director of NIH, shall issue final
7 guidelines that—

8 “(1) provide guidance concerning the next steps
9 required for additional research, which shall include
10 a determination of the extent to which specific tech-
11 niques may require additional animal research to en-
12 sure that any research involving human cells using
13 these techniques would clearly be consistent with the
14 standards established under subsection (a);

15 “(2) prioritize research with the greatest poten-
16 tial for near-term clinical benefit;

17 “(3) consistent with standards established
18 under subsection (a), take into account techniques
19 outlined by the President’s Council on Bioethics and
20 any other appropriate techniques and research; and

21 “(4) in the case of research involving stem cells
22 from a naturally dead embryo, require assurances
23 from grant applicants that no alteration of the tim-
24 ing, methods, or procedures used to create, main-
25 tain, or intervene in the development of a human

1 embryo was made solely for the purpose of deriving
2 the stem cells.

3 “(c) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than
4 January 1 of each year, the Secretary shall prepare and
5 submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a
6 report describing the activities carried out under this sec-
7 tion during the fiscal year, including a description of the
8 research conducted under this section.

9 “(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
10 tion shall be construed as altering the policy in effect on
11 the date of enactment of this section regarding the eligi-
12 bility of stem cell lines for funding by the National Insti-
13 tutes of Health.

14 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
15 is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be nec-
16 essary to carry out this section.

17 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 “(1) NATURALLY DEAD.—The term ‘naturally
19 dead’ means having naturally and irreversibly lost
20 the capacity for integrated cellular division, growth,
21 and differentiation that is characteristic of an orga-
22 nism, even if some cells of the former organism may
23 be alive in a disorganized state.

24 “(2) HUMAN EMBRYO OR EMBRYOS.—The term
25 ‘human embryo or embryos’ includes any organism,

1 not protected as a human subject under part 46 of
2 title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, as of the date
3 of enactment of this section, that is derived by fer-
4 tilization, parthenogenesis, cloning, or any other
5 means from one or more human gametes or human
6 diploid cells.

7 “(3) RISK OF INJURY.—The term ‘risk of in-
8 jury’ means subjecting a human embryo or embryos
9 to risk of injury or death greater than that allowed
10 for research on fetuses in utero under section
11 46.204(b) of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations,
12 and section 498(b) of this Act.”

13 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL AMNIOTIC AND PLACENTAL STEM CELL**
14 **BANK.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
16 Human Services shall enter into a contract with the Insti-
17 tute of Medicine for the conduct of a study to recommend
18 an optimal structure for an amniotic and placental stem
19 cell bank program and to address pertinent issues to maxi-
20 mize the potential of such technology, including collection,
21 storage, standards setting, information sharing, distribu-
22 tion, reimbursement, research, and outcome measures. In
23 conducting such study, the Institute should receive input
24 from relevant experts including the existing operators of

1 federal tissue bank programs and the biomedical research
2 programs within the Department of Defense.

3 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
4 of enactment of this Act, the Institute of Medicine shall
5 complete the study under subsection (a) and submit to the
6 Secretary of Health and Human Services and the appro-
7 priate committees of Congress a report on the results of
8 such study.

Passed the Senate April 11, 2007.

Attest:

Secretary.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

April 10, 2007
(Senate)

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY
S. 30 – Hope Offered through Principled and Ethical Stem Cell Research Act
(Sens. Coleman (R) MN and Isakson (R) GA)

The Administration strongly supports Senate passage of S. 30, a bill to support and intensify research into techniques of deriving pluripotent stem cells without harming or destroying human embryos.

Pluripotent stem cells are cells that can be differentiated into nearly all the cell types in the human body. At present, the means of obtaining such cells involve the destruction or endangerment of living human embryos, raising serious moral concerns. Ongoing research is investigating whether stem cells derived from the tissues of donors, umbilical cord blood, amniotic fluid, placentas, and other non-embryonic sources may be pluripotent. Numerous techniques are being explored by researchers, and significant scientific advances have been reported in the past few years.

This bill authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to support the use and further development of techniques for producing pluripotent cells like those derived from human embryos, but without harming or destroying the embryos. Research using pluripotent stem cells is still at a very early stage, and it will be years before researchers know how much promise lies in therapeutic applications. This early stage is precisely when it is most important to develop ethically responsible techniques, so that the potential of pluripotent stem cells can be explored without violating human dignity and life.

This bill also directs the Department, under contract with the Institute of Medicine, to study and recommend the optimal structure for an amniotic and placental stem cell bank. While research in this area is still developing, recent publications suggest that a new and readily available source of pluripotent stem cells may exist in the amniotic fluid that cushions babies in the womb. The Administration supports further investigation in this area.

The Administration does not believe science and ethics need be at odds. Scientists have shown they have the ingenuity and skill to pursue the potential benefits of stem cell research without endangering nascent human life in the process. By seeking intensified support for non-destructive alternatives, we believe we can advance medical research in valuable ways while respecting ethical boundaries that are vital to millions of American taxpayers.

* * * * *

Withdrawal Marker

The George W. Bush Library

FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Draft	[Draft]	2	N.D.	P5;

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COLLECTION:

Domestic Policy Council

SERIES:

Zinsmeister, W. Karl - Subject Files

FOLDER TITLE:

Stem Cells 2007: Stem Cell Veto 2007 and Executive Order [2]

FRC ID:

14303

OA Num.:

14165

NARA Num.:

14062

FOIA IDs and Segments:

2017-0029-F

2014-0503-F

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PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

Deed of Gift Restrictions

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- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
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Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Heiligendamm, Germany)

For Immediate Release

June 7, 2007

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Today, the United States House of Representatives, with its vote on the embryonic stem cell bill, chose to discard existing protections on human life. This bill puts scientific research and ethical principle into conflict, rather than supporting a balanced approach that advances scientific and medical frontiers without violating moral principles.

My Administration has sought to understand the dilemmas of stem cell research not as a choice between science and ethics, but as a challenge to advance medicine while meeting our solemn obligation to defend human life. That is why in 2001 I authorized the first federal funding for research on embryonic stem cells, under careful safeguards. This policy encouraged ethical research, while requiring taxpayer funds not be used to support the creation, destruction, or harming of living human embryos.

Recent scientific developments have reinforced my conviction that stem cell science can progress in ethical ways. Researchers have been investigating innovative techniques that could allow doctors and scientists to produce stem cells just as versatile as those derived from human embryos, but without harming life, and the House vote on this bill took place just after significant advances in stem cell research were reported in leading scientific journals. These reports give us added hope that we may one day enjoy the potential benefits of embryonic stem cells without destroying human life.

I am disappointed the leadership of Congress recycled an old bill that would simply overturn our country's carefully balanced policy on embryonic stem cell research. If this bill were to become law, American taxpayers would for the first time in our history be compelled to support the deliberate destruction of human embryos. Crossing that line would be a grave mistake. For that reason, I will veto the bill passed today.

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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Email	RE: Stem Cell Event - To: Karl Zinsmeister	1	06/14/2007	P5;

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Email	Tuesday Meetings? - To: Karl Zinsmeister - From: Christopher Papagianis	1	06/18/2007	P5;

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Handwritten Note	S.C. Principals' Mtg Notes	2	06/2007	P5;

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Draft	Frame	1	N.D.	P5;

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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Email	S.5 Veto Statement - To: John Marburger - From: Karl Zinsmeister	1	06/12/2007	P5;

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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Email	RE: OSTP Comments to Veto Statement - To: Christopher Papagianis - From: Karl Zinsmeister	1	06/12/2007	P5;

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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Email	RE: - To: Karl Zinsmeister - From: Kevin Sullivan	1	06/18/2007	P5;

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Email	RE: Stem Cell Qs - To: Karl Zinsmeister, et al. - From: Christopher Papagianis	1	06/18/2007	P5;

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Email	RE: Stem Cell Guidance - To: Karl Zinsmeister, et al. - From: John Marburger	1	06/18/2007	P5;

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Records Not Subject to FOIA

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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Email	RE: Stem Cell Guidance - To: John Marburger, et al. - From: Karl Zinsmeister	3	06/18/2007	P5;

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COLLECTION:

Domestic Policy Council

SERIES:

Zinsmeister, W. Karl - Subject Files

FOLDER TITLE:

Stem Cells 2007: Stem Cell Veto 2007 and Executive Order [2]

FRC ID:

14303

OA Num.:

14165

NARA Num.:

14062

FOIA IDs and Segments:

2017-0029-F

2014-0503-F

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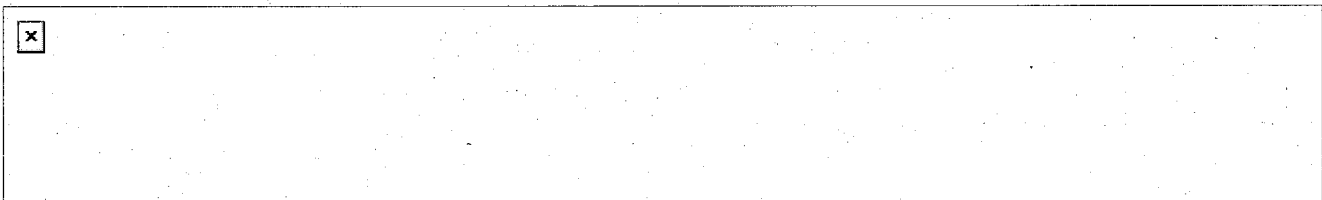
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Zinsmeister, Karl

From: Papagianis, Christopher C.
Sent: Thursday, June 07, 2007 3:42 PM
To: Zinsmeister, Karl; Troy, Tevi D.
Subject: GOP Proposal to Boost Federal Support for Pluripotent Stem Cell Research

Here is how the MTR was described in the House.

From: GOP Leader Alert [mailto:GOPLeaderAlert@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 07, 2007 1:16 PM
Subject: GOP Proposal to Boost Federal Support for Pluripotent Stem Cell Research



GOP PROPOSAL TO BOOST FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR PLURIPOTENT STEM CELL RESEARCH

SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH THAT DOESN'T REQUIRE DESTROYING HUMAN LIFE

June 7, 2007

Today House Republicans will offer a proposal to direct the National Institute of Health (NIH) to conduct and support research involving stem cells that have "pluripotent" or embryonic-like qualities **without harming or destroying an embryo**. The proposal will be offered as a motion-to-recommit (MTR) on the *Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act (S.5)*, a bill that would force taxpayers to foot the bill for the destruction of human life for research.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops delivered a letter to Congress stating that those who support S.5 would "explore ways to achieve the benefits of stem cell research within moral limits, but only if they can also violate those limits," which "only underscores the underlying bill's **cavalier attitude towards moral limits.**"

The Republican proposal, based on legislation authored by Reps. Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD) and Phil Gingrey (R-GA), removes the provisions of S.5 that would force taxpayers to pay for the destruction of human life, leaving only the ethical alternative stem cell research. This approach is bolstered by new research showing the full potential of stem cell research can be realized without destroying living human embryos that are capable of growing into healthy human adults. According to the *Washington Post*:

"Three teams of scientists said yesterday they had coaxed ordinary mouse skin cells to become what are effectively **embryonic stem cells without creating or destroying embryos in the process...**

"If the process also works with human cells, as scientists suspect it will with some

modifications, it would mean that a person's own skin cells could be converted directly into stem cells without having to collect healthy human eggs or destroy human embryos -- steps that until now have been required to obtain embryonic stem cells.

"Those stem cells could then be used to make a wide variety of personalized replacement tissues."

At a press conference today, House Republican Leader John Boehner (R-OH) reiterated his support for stem cell research that does not involve the destruction of human life:

"The question here is not whether you support stem cell research -- **the question is whether taxpayers should be forced to fund ethically-questionable research** that crosses the line. We should be focusing on research that shows promise, like adult stem cell research."

Republicans are urged to support the MTR.

REPUBLICAN LEADER PRESS OFFICE
REP. JOHN BOEHNER (R-OH)
H-204, THE CAPITOL
(202) 225-4000
[HTTP://REPUBLICANLEADER.HOUSE.GOV/](http://REPUBLICANLEADER.HOUSE.GOV/)

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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Draft	Draft Statement by the President	2	06/07/2007	P5;

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Email	FOR REVIEW - Draft Statement on Passage of Stem Cell Bill - To: VP Staff Sec, et al. - From: Thomas Bowman	2	06/06/2007	P5;

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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Email	Re: Patients and Statement - To: Christopher Papagianis - From: Karl Zinsmeister	3	06/06/2007	P5;

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Email	Statement by the President - To: Christopher Papagianis	2	04/11/2007	P5;

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Zinsmeister, W. Karl - Subject Files

FOLDER TITLE:

Stem Cells 2007: Stem Cell Veto 2007 and Executive Order [2]

FRC ID:

14303

OA Num.:

14165

NARA Num.:

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FOIA IDs and Segments:

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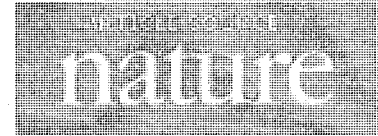
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Nature

Published online: 6 June 2007; | doi:10.1038/447618a



Simple switch turns cells embryonic

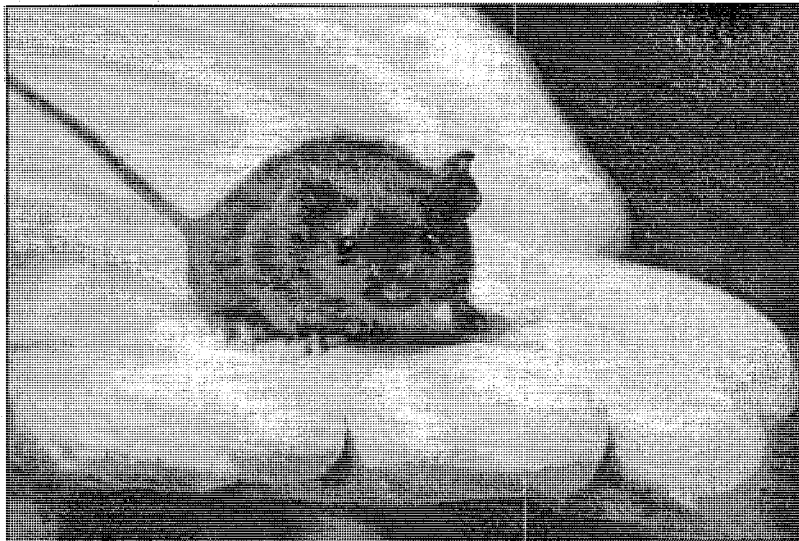
Technique removes need for eggs or embryos.

David Cyranoski

Thought would take
10 yrs.

Research reported this week by three different groups shows that normal skin cells can be reprogrammed to an embryonic state in mice^{1, 2, 3}. The race is now on to apply the surprisingly straightforward procedure to human cells.

If researchers succeed, it will make it relatively easy to produce cells that seem indistinguishable from embryonic stem cells, and that are genetically matched to individual patients. There are limits to how useful and safe these would be for therapeutic use in the near term, but they should quickly prove a boon in the lab.



The birth of this chimaeric mouse suggests that the cells used to generate it behave like embryonic stem cells.

S. OGDEN

"It would change the way we see things quite dramatically," says Alan Trounson of Monash University in Victoria, Australia. Trounson wasn't involved in the new work but says he plans to start using the technique "tomorrow". "I can think of a dozen experiments right now — and they're all good ones," he says.

In theory, embryonic stem cells can propagate themselves indefinitely and are able to become any type of cell in the body. But so far, the only way to obtain embryonic stem cells involves destroying an embryo, and to get a genetic match for a patient would mean, in effect, cloning that person — all of which raise difficult ethical questions.

As well as having potential ethical difficulties, the 'cloning' procedure is technically difficult. It involves obtaining unfertilized eggs, replacing their genetic material with that from an adult cell and then forcing the cell to divide to create an early-stage embryo, from which the stem cells can be harvested. Those barriers may have now been broken down.

"Neither eggs nor embryos are necessary. I've never worked with either," says Shinya Yamanaka of Kyoto University, who has pioneered the new technique.

Last year, Yamanaka introduced a system that uses mouse fibroblasts, a common cell type that can easily be harvested from skin, instead of eggs⁴. Four genes, which code for four specific proteins known as transcription factors, are transferred into the cells using retroviruses. The proteins trigger the expression of other genes that lead the cells to become pluripotent, meaning that they could potentially become any of the body's cells. Yamanaka calls them induced pluripotent stem cells (iPS cells). "It's easy. There's no trick, no magic," says Yamanaka.

It's unbelievable, just amazing. It's like Dolly. It's that type of accomplishment.

The results were met with amazement, along with a good dose of scepticism. Four factors seemed too simple. And although the cells had some characteristics of embryonic cells — they formed colonies, could propagate continuously and could form cancerous growths called teratomas — they lacked others. Introduction of iPS cells into a developing embryo, for example, did not produce a 'chimaera' — a mouse carrying a mix of DNA from both the original embryo and the iPS cells throughout its body. "I was not comfortable with the term 'pluripotent' last year," says Hans Schöler, a stem-cell specialist at the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Biomedicine in Münster who is not involved with any of the three articles.

This week, Yamanaka presents a second generation of iPS cells¹, which pass all these tests. In addition, a group led by Rudolf Jaenisch² at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and a collaborative effort³ between Konrad Hochedlinger of the Harvard Stem Cell Institute and Kathrin Plath of the University of California, Los Angeles, used the same four factors and got strikingly similar results.

"It's a relief as some people questioned our results, especially after the Hwang scandal," says Yamanaka, referring to the irreproducible cloning work of Woo Suk Hwang, which turned out to be fraudulent. Schöler agrees: "Now we can be confident that this is something worth building on."

The improvement over last year's results was simple. The four transcription factors used by Yamanaka reprogramme cells inconsistently and inefficiently, so that less than 0.1% of the million cells in a simple skin biopsy will be fully reprogrammed. The difficulty is isolating those in which reprogramming has been successful. Researchers do this by inserting a gene for antibiotic resistance that is activated only when proteins characteristic of stem cells are expressed. The cells can then be doused with antibiotics, killing off the failures.

The protein Yamanaka used as a marker for stem cells last year was not terribly good at identifying reprogrammed cells. This time, all three groups used two other protein markers — Nanog and Oct4 — to great effect. All three groups were able to produce chimaeric mice using iPS cells isolated in this way; and the mice passed iPS DNA on to their offspring.

Jaenisch also used a special embryo to produce fetuses whose cells were derived entirely from iPS cells. "Only the best embryonic stem cells can do this," he says.

"It's unbelievable, just amazing," says Schöler, who heard Jaenisch present his results at a meeting on 31 May in Bavaria. "For me it's like Dolly [the first cloned mammal]. It's that type of accomplishment."

The method is inviting. Whereas cloning with humans was limited by the number of available eggs and by a tricky technique that takes some six months to master, Yamanaka's method can use the most basic cells and can be accomplished with simple lab techniques.

But applying the method to human cells has yet to be successful. "We are working very hard — day and night," says Yamanaka. It will probably require more transcription factors, he adds.

If it works, researchers could produce iPS cells from patients with conditions such as Parkinson's disease or diabetes and observe the molecular changes in the cells as they develop. This 'disease in a dish' would offer the chance to see how different environmental factors contribute to the condition, and to test the ability of drugs to check disease progression.

But the iPS cells aren't perfect, and could not be used safely to make genetically matched cells for transplant in, for example, spinal-cord injuries. Yamanaka found that one of the factors seems to contribute to cancer in 20% of his chimaeric mice. He thinks this can be fixed, but the retroviruses used may themselves also cause mutations and cancer. "This is really dangerous. We would never transplant these into a patient," says Jaenisch. In his view, research into embryonic stem cells made by cloning remains "absolutely essential".

If the past year is anything to judge by, change will come quickly. "I'm not sure if it will be us, or Jaenisch, or someone else, but I expect some big success with humans in the next year," says Yamanaka.

Additional reporting by Heidi Ledford

For more on alternative stem-cell work, see '[Stem cells: Recycling the abnormal](#)'; and see <http://www.nature.com/stemcells>

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