



*Dedicated to Advancing Stem Cell Research*

**Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research**

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March 20, 2007

The Honorable Pamela Maier  
12 Chadd Road  
Newark, DE 19711

Attention: Stephanie Mantegna via facsimile at 302-739-7349

Dear Representative Maier:

I am writing on behalf of Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research (CAMR) regarding legislation currently before the Delaware General Assembly. Our coalition and its 100 members strongly support the Delaware Regenerative Medicine Act (SB 5), but we oppose the Delaware Human Cloning Prohibition Act (HB 76). CAMR represents the voices of patients, scientists, physicians and academic institutions across the country in the debate over stem cell research and the future of regenerative medicine. We have grassroots members from patient and other advocacy organizations in every state in the nation, including Delaware.

We join with patient groups, leading scientists, the National Academy of Sciences, and a large majority of the American people in opposing human reproductive cloning and implantation. The Delaware Human Cloning Prohibition Act (HB 76), however, goes far beyond banning reproductive cloning by prohibiting somatic cell nuclear transfer (SCNT) research. SCNT is an important procedure that is fundamentally different than reproductive cloning and aims to save and improve lives. For this reason, CAMR strongly opposed HB 76.

We believe the better approach is offered through the Delaware Regenerative Medicine Act (SB 5). This bill not only would promote stem cell research in Delaware, but also contains provisions to ban human reproductive cloning without banning SCNT. SCNT could lead to dramatic new treatments and cures for now incurable diseases and medical conditions. SCNT could be used to help nearly 100 million Americans suffering from cancer, Alzheimer's, diabetes, Parkinson's, spinal cord injuries, heart disease, ALS, and other devastating conditions for which treatments and cures must still be found. The strongest and most effective ban on human reproductive cloning is one which aims to prevent implantation and human asexual reproduction that results from implantation. Any attempt to intervene with prohibitions prior to implantation effectively ends stem cell research that could save lives.

We are encouraged by the recent reversal of the ban on SCNT research in Iowa and encourage the state of Delaware to move forward with important stem cell research efforts by passing SB 5 rather than take a step back by passing prohibitive legislation such as HB 76.

Sincerely,

Amy Comstock Rick  
Vice President for State Legislation

cc: Members of the House Health and Human Development Committee