



Dedicated to Advancing Stem Cell Research

Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research

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June 13, 2008

Governor Ted Strickland
Governor's Office
Riffe Center, 30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215-6108
Fax: (614) 466-9354

Dear Governor Strickland:

I am writing on behalf of the Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research (CAMR) to thank you for your line item veto of anti-research legislation on June 12, 2008. Our coalition and its national membership strongly opposed the Human Cloning Prohibition Act and its inclusion in HB 544, the Economic Stimulus Package. CAMR represents the voices of patients, physicians, scientists, and academic institutions across the country in the hope that embryonic stem cell research will provide cures and better treatments for those who suffer from debilitating diseases and disorders. We have grassroots members from patient and other advocacy organizations in every state in the nation, including Ohio.

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 provision included in the Economic Stimulus Package however, was based on the Human Cloning Prohibition Act – a bill that 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 works on state, federal, and international levels to support efforts that fund and promote SCNT research.

We are encouraged by your strong support for this important research by using your line item veto to strike the Human Cloning Prohibition Act from HB 544. We view your line item veto as a hopeful step forward for scientific progress in our nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Comstock Rick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Amy" being particularly prominent.

Amy Comstock Rick
President