

July 17, 2006

The Honorable Bill Frist, M.D.
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-221 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Frist and Minority Leader Reid:

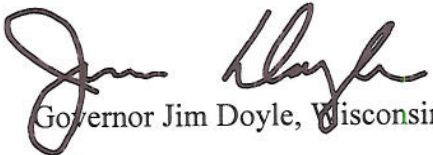
On behalf of the citizens of our states, we urge you and all the members of the U.S. Senate to lift President Bush's harmful restrictions on stem cell research by voting to pass the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act (HR 810).

Stem cell research holds the potential to cure some of humanity's oldest and deadliest diseases -- from Parkinson's to Alzheimer's to multiple sclerosis and cancer. President Bush's restrictions have delayed that research for far too long. The Senate has a vital opportunity this week to do the right thing so the science can go forward. That opportunity must not be squandered.

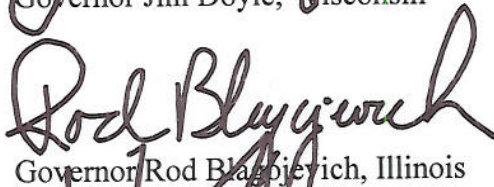
Every day, thousands of families in our states struggle as a loved one suffers from juvenile diabetes, spinal cord injuries, and other conditions that might be cured if the President's restrictions are lifted. For nearly five years, these families have been forced to wait as the Bush policy has obstructed this vital research. It would be unconscionable to make them wait any longer.

This legislation passed the House last year on a solid, bipartisan vote. Now, the Senate has a chance to follow suit. Passage of this bill will mean that those suffering from terrible diseases and their families will have a hope for a better, healthier future.

Sincerely,


Governor Jim Doyle, Wisconsin

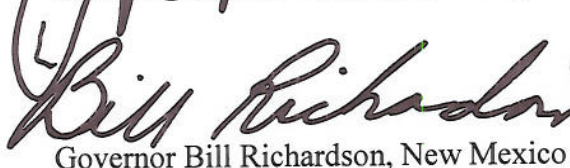

Governor Ruth Ann Minner, Delaware


Governor Rod Blagojevich, Illinois


Governor Thomas J. Vilsack, Iowa


Governor Jennifer Granholm, Michigan


Governor Jon Corzine, New Jersey


Governor Bill Richardson, New Mexico


Governor Ted Kulongoski, Oregon