Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 4, 2005

HELP SAVE LIVES

Join over 100 of your colleagues in cosponsoring the Castle-DeGette Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act

Dear Colleague:

We will reintroduce the "Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act" again this Congress and hope that you will join us in cosponsoring this important legislation. Our bill builds on President Bush's embryonic stem cell research policy by allowing federal funding for research on stem cell lines derived ethically after August 9, 2001. The goal of the legislation is to enable our best and brightest scientists to have access to the most pristine and advanced stem cell lines, so they may continue to move this research forward in the search of cures and treatments.

As you may know, the current policy isn't sufficient to accomplish this. No lines derived after August 9, 2001 are eligible to receive federal funding for research. Because we firmly believe in the authority of the National Institutes of Health, rather than the private sector, to oversee and guide this research ethically, we believe that the policy must be expanded. Over 100 stem cell lines have been derived since that date, but they are not eligible for federal funding.

Over 100 of your colleagues have already agreed to be an original cosponsor of the "Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act," a list of whom can be found on the back of this Dear Colleague. We hope that you will consider joining them.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Wenk with Representative Castle (5-4165) or Meghan Taira with Representative DeGette (5-4431).

Sincerely,

Mike Castle
Michael N. Castle
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Diana DeGette
Diana DeGette
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

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ORIGINAL COSPONSORS OF THE CASTLE-DEGETTE STEM CELL RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT ACT

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