

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 51

To derive human pluripotent stem cell lines using techniques that do not knowingly harm embryos.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 4, 2007

Mr. ISAKSON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To derive human pluripotent stem cell lines using techniques that do not knowingly harm embryos.

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 “Pluripotent Stem Cell
5 Therapy Enhancement Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

7 It is the purpose of this Act to—

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

1 (2) promote the derivation of pluripotent stem
2 cell lines without the creation of human embryos for
3 research purposes and discarding, destroying, or
4 knowingly harming a human embryo.

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

6 Part B of title IV of the Public Health Service Act
7 (42 U.S.C. 284 et seq.) is amended by inserting after sec-
8 tion 498C the following:

9 **“SEC. 409J. HUMAN PLURIPOTENT STEM CELL RESEARCH.**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct and
11 support basic and applied research to develop techniques
12 for the isolation, derivation, production, or testing of
13 pluripotent stem cells that have the flexibility of embryonic
14 stem cells (whether or not they have an embryonic source),
15 and may result in improved understanding of or treat-
16 ments for diseases and other adverse health conditions,
17 provided that such isolation, derivation, production, or
18 testing will not involve—

19 “(1) the creation of a viable human embryo or
20 embryos for research purposes; or

21 “(2) the destruction or discarding of a human
22 embryo or embryos, or knowingly subjecting a
23 human embryo or embryos to risk of injury or death
24 greater than that allowed for research on fetuses in

1 utero under section 498(b) of this Act and section
2 46.204(b) of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations.

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

7 “(1) provide guidance concerning the next steps
8 required for additional research, which shall include
9 a determination of the extent to which specific tech-
10 niques may require additional basic or animal re-
11 search to ensure that any research involving human
12 cells using these techniques would clearly be con-
13 sistent with the standards established under sub-
14 section (a);

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

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

21 “(c) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than
22 January 1 of each year, the Secretary shall prepare and
23 submit to the appropriate committees of the Congress a
24 report describing the activities carried out under this sec-

1 tion during the fiscal year, including a description of the
2 research conducted under this section.

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

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

11 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

12 “(1) HUMAN EMBRYO OR EMBRYOS.—The term
13 ‘human embryo or embryos’ includes any organism,
14 not protected as a human subject under part 46 of
15 title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, as of the date
16 of enactment of this section, that is derived by fer-
17 tilization, parthenogenesis, cloning, or any other
18 means from one or more human gametes or human
19 diploid cells.

20 “(2) PLURIPOTENT STEM CELLS.—The term
21 ‘pluripotent stem cells’ means precursor cells that
22 are capable both of perpetuating themselves as stem
23 cells and of producing all or almost all the cell types
24 of the developing body.

1 “(3) STEM CELL LINE.—The term ‘stem cell
2 line’ means stem cells which have been cultured
3 under in vitro conditions that allow proliferation
4 without differentiation from months to years.

5 “(4) VIABLE.—The term ‘viable’ means mate-
6 rial obtained from the in vitro fertilization process
7 that is transferable into the womb.”.

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