

EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH IS A MEDICAL ISSUE

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, the issue of embryonic stem cell research has been misrepresented as one of abortion. It is not an abortion issue. Stem cell research is a medical issue, one that should transcend political lines and instead focus on human lives.

One such life is that of Carolyn Laughlin, a mother of two diabetic sons in my hometown of Evanston, Illinois, who wrote me this past April to share her family's struggle and urge my support for federally-funded stem cell research.

She said, "Diabetes haunts my family every waking hour. Injections, blood testing, calculating food portions are constant companions of my sons. Overnight, I fear insulin reactions that will leave them unconscious. Long-term we face the concerns of kidney failure, blindness, and amputations."

Most scientists are in agreement that embryonic cell research offers the greatest hope for families like the Laughlins. Federal funding guidelines assure that research will meet ethical standards and allow advancements to be made as quickly as possible in diseases like Parkinson's and Alzheimer's, cancer, heart disease, spinal cord injury.

The Laughlins and millions of other families are counting on us.

ETHICAL STEM CELL RESEARCH USES ADULT STEM CELLS

(Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of ethical stem cell research that uses adult stem cells instead of embryonic stem cells. Life begins at conception, and the use of embryos for research destroys young life.

I support the use of adult stem cells, not just because no young lives are lost, but also because research using adult stem cells has already produced exciting results. Large Scale Biology Corporation, a biotechnology company in the Second District of Kentucky, has produced a growth factor using tobacco-based plant proteins that causes adult stem cells to behave like embryonic stem cells.

Using their patented method, Large Scale Biology Corporation has successfully produced breast cancer and leukemia vaccines in conjunction with a joint Navy-NIH research team.

We all want to see diseases like cancer and Alzheimer's cured, so let us support a proven alternative that we can all agree on and is not controversial. I urge my colleagues and President Bush to support funding for adult

stem cell research and oppose life-destroying embryonic stem cell research.

WE MUST ALLOW FEDERAL FUNDING FOR LIFE-SAVING EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, throughout time people have resisted scientific advancement. History is replete with the examples of fundamentalist religious leaders issuing scientific decisions based on absolutely no evidence.

It is *deja vu* all over again today with this current administration as they inject politics into the single most promising medical research of the century. The Bush administration is unfortunately not committed to research that would hasten medical discoveries, but rather, to hold science hostage to the Catholic vote.

Carl Rove, the President's chief political adviser, is concerned about the views of the Catholic Church because the Catholic voters are seen as a swing vote in the elections. This administration has degraded medical research and the tremendous potential of embryonic stem cell research into an anti-abortion vote.

The White House is currently reviewing the matter. In other words, they are looking at the polls. "A responsible leader," and this is a quote, "is someone who makes decisions based upon principles, not based upon polls or focus groups." The New York Times reminds us that President Bush said those words a few days before Election Day. Perhaps he needs to be reminded.

Without a microscope, one cannot even see what this debate is all about. The center of the controversy is a microscopic cluster of cells stored in test tubes like this one. It is smaller than the period at the end of a sentence.

When ORRIN HATCH says he can tell the difference between cells in the test tube and those in a woman's body, then we know that this is a nonsense argument. We should continue this research.

GUTKNECHT AMENDMENT ALLOWS ACCESS TO REASONABLY-PRICED DRUGS FOR SENIORS

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, later today we are going to have a very heated debate about a simple amendment that I am going to offer to make it clear what the Congress intended last year in terms of prescription drugs and allowing seniors and other Americans access to drugs from other places.

Much of the debate is going to revolve around this chart and the issue of safety. I just want to talk about a

couple of these items here. For Glucophage, a commonly-prescribed drug for diabetes, in the United States the average price is \$30.12 for a 30-day supply. That same drug made in the same plant sells in Europe for \$4.11.

Mr. Speaker, a lot of people are going to say, what about safety? What about safety? Well, there is not a single piece of evidence, not one piece of evidence, that anyone has been injured by bringing legal drugs back into the United States where they have a prescription. That is a fact.

It is also a fact that 4.4 percent of the fruit and produce that comes into this country every day is tainted with serious pathogens.

Mr. Speaker, we are going to have a chance to vote on this amendment. We are going to have to decide whether we are going to defend and explain this chart, and say that Americans should not have the access to legal drugs from legal countries around the world.

URGING THE PRESIDENT TO ALLOW STEM CELL RESEARCH TO PROCEED

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge the President to allow stem cell research to proceed.

Along with the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) and many others in this Congress, we have introduced House Resolution 17 that calls on Federal funding of human pluripotent stem cell research to continue.

As the recent statements by a number of prominent Republicans, such as Andy Card and Tommy Thompson, have said, they have come out in support of stem cell research. They underscore that this should not be a partisan issue. After a lengthy public comment period on August 25, the NIH published guidelines on human pluripotent stem cell research. Additionally, they accepted applications for research projects through March, 2001.

However, President Bush has put a hold on this work, calling for a review of the guidelines. I say to the President that it is estimated that over 100 million Americans are living with diseases like Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, diabetes. These people could be helped by stem cell research. We need to support science. We need to support medical knowledge. We need to support stem cell research.

EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH DESTROYS LIFE

(Mr. DELAY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of stem cell research, research that is ethical and which has been proven effective. The stem cell research I am referring to is derived from

adults, umbilical cord blood, and placental blood, to name just a few sources. I, however, am not talking about stem cell research extracted from human embryos.

We can and are saving lives with stem cells gathered from adults even more effectively than the stem cell research from embryos that some of my colleagues favor. We would think that this would be enough to convince folks where they should be on this important issue.

In case it is not, the fact that living human embryos would be deliberately destroyed in order to obtain their stem cells to me is absolutely appalling. Once we begin justifying the killing of human beings at one stage of development, we invite other troubling applications.

Stem cell research from human embryos establishes a bad precedent and is ethically wrong. Human life is too valuable. Let us condemn the logic of faulty research that extinguishes one life on the pretext of extending others. Instead, we should support the promising research methods that will save lives without ending others.

THE SUGAR PROGRAM

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, some of our colleagues defend the sugar subsidy as a no-net-cost program. If that was ever true, it is not true today. The sugar program costs plenty.

It costs tax dollars. Last year the Department of Agriculture spent \$465 million on sugar subsidies.

It costs consumers. The General Accounting Office, a congressional agency, estimates that the people who consume and use sugar, which is all of us, pay an additional \$1.9 billion a year because the Federal sugar subsidy keeps prices higher than they would be in a free market.

And the sugar program costs industry. Companies in my community, in my neighborhood, and other places throughout the country are moving away because the price is too high. That is unfair. It is unfair to consumers, it is unfair to workers, and it is unfair to America.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE IS CRAFTING BALANCED, LONG-TERM ENERGY POLICY

(Mrs. WILSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House today starts working on a comprehensive energy bill. It is going to be a balanced, long-term approach on energy policy for the Nation.

We have made wonderful strides in the last 20 years in conserving energy

in this country. The refrigerator that we can buy today down at our local appliance store is one-third more efficient than it was in 1972.

We also have to increase supplies of energy and reduce our reliance on foreign oil. We have to improve our energy infrastructure, strengthen it, and give ourselves safe pipelines and modern transmission grids and refineries to get the energy where it needs to be.

We have a wonderful opportunity this summer to craft a policy important to the future of this country and to every citizen who pumps gas into their car or pays the family electric bill. We should seize that opportunity.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOKSEY). Although some minutes have passed since the remarks that prompt the Chair to mention it, the Chair must remind all Members that remarks in debate in the House may not include quotations of Senators, except in making legislative history on a pending measure.

FLAG PROTECTION AMENDMENT

(Ms. SANCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Joint Resolution No. 36, the flag protection constitutional amendment.

The flag stands for all of us in this wonderful country, and the honor we bestow upon it as our symbol is as great as the contributions each of us should hope to make for our Nation.

If the Stars and Stripes could talk, I am sure that they would say, "I am what you make of me. It is up to you to keep me raised high and flying. I am your belief in yourself, your dream of what a people may become. I am all that you hope to be and have the courage to try for."

"I am song and fear, struggle and panic, and ennobling hope. I am the day's work of the weakest man, and the largest dream of the most daring. I am the battle of yesterday and the mistake of tomorrow. I am the clutch of an idea and the reasoned purpose of resolution."

"I am no more than what you believe me to be, and I am all that you believe I can be. I am what you make of me, nothing more."

Mr. Speaker, I consistently vote for this amendment because I believe that all Americans should be allowed to vote on whether to protect our flag.

THE LAW AND ETHICAL STANDARDS DEMAND DISCONTINUATION OF FEDERAL FUNDING OF DESTRUCTIVE HUMAN EMBRYO RESEARCH

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, adult stem cell research is pro-life, but destroying nascent human beings for research is not pro-life.

It is said that facts are stubborn things. Fact No. 1 in this debate, Mr. Speaker, is that Congress outlawed Federal funding of destructive human embryo research in 1996. When the Clinton administration authorized the use of Federal funding for embryo stem cell research, that law became yet another law trampled by the Clinton administration. I pray that President Bush and his administration will not follow suit.

Fact No. 2, Mr. Speaker: As Dr. Weldon said, not one medical treatment has been developed from research done on stem cells from human embryos. Virtually every advancement cited today on this floor was accomplished with adult stem cell research. Researchers describe the usefulness of embryonic stem cells as conjecture.

The Washington Post today alarmingly reports of the creation of human embryos for the express purpose of their destruction. I implore the President to make the morally right decision regarding embryo stem cell research. The ethics and the law demand that we discontinue Federal funding.

The President should do justice, enforce the law, and choose life so that we and our children may live.

□ 1045

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is time to pass meaningful campaign finance reform legislation. Let us take soft money out of politics, let us restore integrity to our political system.

The bipartisan Shays-Meehan Campaign Reform Act has passed in this body twice before. We should finally move to make it law. Shays-Meehan bans soft money for national parties, it reins in campaign advertisements masquerading as issue advocacy, enhances disclosure of political expenditures, and provides the Federal Election Commission with the teeth it needs to enforce the law.

Unfortunately, the Republican leadership is determined to drive a stake through the heart of all campaign finance reform. They have introduced a sham alternative that is intended to delay, distract, and to ultimately kill real reform. The bill will not clean up our campaign finance system but rather allow even more money to flow through it.

Their bill would allow a wealthy couple to give \$1.26 million in hard and soft money to a national party in an election campaign, and it allows Federal candidates to raise unlimited