Cell Biologists Praise Frist Stem Cell Decision

Dr. Larry Goldstein, Chair of the Public Policy Committee for the American Society for Cell Biology, praised the decision by Senator Bill Frist (R-TN) to support embryonic stem cell legislation currently pending before the Senate.

“I commend Senator Frist for his decision to join a growing majority in the Senate in support of an expansion of the current federal embryonic stem cell policy,” Goldstein said. “Embryonic stem cells hold great promise in the fight against human disease.” Goldstein continued. “This promise will be best realized through responsible, ethical research funded by the National Institutes of Health.”

In May 2005, the House of Representatives passed H.R.810, The Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2005, by a vote of 238–194. The bill now waits for action by the Senate. “Members of the Senate respect Senator Frist for his views on medicine and look to him for advice,” said Dr. Goldstein. “I am sure his support of this legislation will have a major impact on their support for H.R.810.”

“The ASCB looks forward to working with him to secure passage of this bill this fall,” said Goldstein.

The American Society for Cell Biology is a nonprofit organization representing over 11,000 basic biomedical researchers in the United States and over 50 other countries.