
HOUSE BILL 1730

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Representatives B. Sullivan and Schual-Berke

Read first time 01/25/2007. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to the use of the life sciences discovery fund for
2 human stem cell research; adding a new section to chapter 68.50 RCW;
3 and adding a new section to chapter 43.350 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 68.50 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Except as specified in subsection (2) of this section, human
8 stem cells from any source may be donated for research purposes if the
9 donor has provided written consent to use the human stem cells for such
10 purposes and the donor has not received valuable consideration for the
11 donation.

12 (2)(a) Individuals may donate human embryonic stem cells for
13 research purposes if the human embryonic stem cells are obtained from
14 blastocysts that are generated by in vitro fertilization procedures,
15 the donation is made pursuant to the valid informed consent of both the
16 donors of the sperm and egg that created the blastocyst, and the donor
17 has not received valuable consideration for the donation.

18 (b) Informed consent to donate human embryonic stem cells for
19 research is valid only if both the sperm and egg donors acknowledge in

1 writing that they have been informed of the opportunity for disposing
2 of blastocysts through: Donating the blastocyst for research purposes;
3 donating the blastocyst to another person; thawing the blastocyst
4 without further action; or disposing of the blastocyst in another
5 method.

6 (c) In the event that a sperm or egg donor has died or has provided
7 a written relinquishment of his or her right to select the disposition
8 of the blastocyst to the other donor, the other donor may select the
9 disposition of the blastocyst.

10 (3) For purposes of this section, "blastocyst" means a
11 preimplantation embryo consisting of approximately one hundred fifty
12 cells that are organized into an inner and outer cell layer surrounding
13 a fluid-filled cavity. The cells of the inner layer, from which
14 embryonic stem cells are derived, consists of undifferentiated cells
15 that have the potential to become any type of cell in the human body.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.350 RCW
17 to read as follows:

18 (1) No money from the life sciences discovery fund may be used to
19 support research involving human stem cells, including human embryonic
20 stem cells, unless the human stem cells were donated in compliance with
21 section 1 of this act.

22 (2) Any research proposal that involves human embryonic stem cells
23 that is affiliated with a state-supported institution of higher
24 education must be approved by the institution's embryonic stem cell
25 research oversight committee prior to submission to the authority. No
26 public funds may be distributed for the following purposes:

27 (a) No money from the life sciences discovery fund may be used to
28 injure an embryo that has been implanted in a uterus.

29 (b) No money from the life sciences discovery fund may be used to
30 clone an individual by means of asexual reproduction of a human being
31 by transplanting a blastocyst that has been created by somatic cell
32 nuclear transfer into a uterus or substitute for a uterus with the
33 purpose of creating a human being.

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