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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4030

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**State of Washington**                      **58th Legislature**                      **2004 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Schual-Berke, Wood, Ruderman, Chase, Sullivan, Murray, McIntire, Hunt, Hankins, Cody, Moeller, Kagi and Sommers

Prefiled 1/7/2004.      Read first time 01/12/2004.      Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1            TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
2            AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3            REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4            UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE SECRETARY OF THE  
5            UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND TO THE  
6            DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH:

7            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
8            the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
9            represent and petition as follows:

10           WHEREAS, An estimated one hundred twenty-eight million Americans  
11           suffer from chronic, degenerative, and acute diseases and conditions,  
12           including diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, cancer, Huntington's disease,  
13           Parkinson's disease, heart disease, and spinal cord injury; and

14           WHEREAS, The crippling economic and psychological burdens of  
15           chronic, degenerative, and acute diseases result in billions of dollars  
16           every year in costs of treatment and lost productivity and these  
17           estimates do not consider the extreme human loss and emotional  
18           suffering; and

19           WHEREAS, Human stem cell research offers immense promise for  
20           developing new medical therapies for debilitating diseases and injuries

1 and could lead to unprecedented treatments and potential cures for  
2 diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, cancer, Huntington's disease,  
3 Parkinson's disease, heart disease, and spinal cord injury; and

4 WHEREAS, The National Bioethics Advisory Commission has found that  
5 somatic cell nuclear transplantation may have important applications in  
6 medical research; and

7 WHEREAS, The United States has historically been a haven for open  
8 scientific inquiry and technological innovation and is the world leader  
9 in biomedicine and biotechnology; and

10 WHEREAS, All ethical considerations of using human embryonic stem  
11 cells and human embryonic germ cells in research must be weighed before  
12 engaging in such research, including the potential to save lives and  
13 reduce human suffering through new treatments and cures; and

14 WHEREAS, Stem cell research holds enormous potential for treating  
15 or even curing some diseases, yet the cloning of human beings is  
16 morally and ethically unacceptable;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that federal  
18 funding be made widely available to support research involving human  
19 embryonic stem cells and human embryonic germ cells, including somatic  
20 cell nuclear transplantation, upon full consideration of the ethical  
21 and medical implications of this research.

22 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
23 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United  
24 States, the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and  
25 Human Services, the Director of the National Institutes of Health, the  
26 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
27 Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
28 Washington.

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