



512 10th Street, NW Washington, DC 20004-1401  
(202) 626-8800 FAX: (202) 737-9189 Website: www.nrlc.org

May 11, 2005

RE: H.R. 810 (federal funding of embryo-killing research)

Dear Member of Congress:

The National Right to Life Committee (NRLC), on behalf of our affiliates in all 50 states, urges you to oppose H.R. 810, legislation to authorize federal funding of research that requires the killing of human embryos.

H.R. 810, sponsored by Reps. Castle and DeGette, is intended solely to overturn President Bush's policy against using federal funds for embryo-destructive research. **NRLC will include the roll call on passage of H.R. 810 (or any substantially similar legislation) in its scorecard of key pro-life votes for 2005.**

Each human being begins as a human embryo, male or female. The government should not fund research that requires the killing of living members of the species *homo sapiens*.

Stem cells can be obtained without killing human embryos, from umbilical cord blood and from many types of "adult" (non-embryonic) tissue. Already, humans with at least 58 different diseases and conditions have received therapeutic benefit from treatment with such "adult stem cells." **In contrast, embryonic stem cells have not been tested in humans for any purpose because of the dangers demonstrated in animal studies, including frequent formation of tumors.**

Those who favor federal funding of research that kills human embryos sometimes claim that these embryos "will be discarded anyway," but this need not be so. Many human embryos have been adopted while they were still embryos, or simply donated by their biological parents to other infertile couples. Today they are children indistinguishable from any others.

For additional information, please contact the NRLC Federal Legislation Department at 202-626-8820 or Legfederal@aol.com. Additional resources are available at the NRLC Human Embryos webpage at [www.nrlc.org/killing\\_embryos/index.html](http://www.nrlc.org/killing_embryos/index.html) and at [www.stemcellresearch.org](http://www.stemcellresearch.org)

Thank you for your consideration of our objections to this legislation.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of David N. O'Steen in black ink.

David N. O'Steen, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

Handwritten signature of Douglas Johnson in blue ink.

Douglas Johnson  
Legislative Director