

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2838

To require the Director of the National Institutes of Health to conduct or support research using certain human pluripotent stem cells, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 5, 2001

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To require the Director of the National Institutes of Health to conduct or support research using certain human pluripotent stem cells, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “New Century Health  
5 Advantage Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

8 (1) AIDS, Alzheimer’s disease, anemia, arthri-  
9 tis, birth defects, cancer, diabetes, heart disease,

1 multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, Parkinson’s  
2 disease, sickle cell anemia, stroke, and other debili-  
3 tating conditions and diseases affect millions of peo-  
4 ple in the United States and disproportionately af-  
5 fect African American and other minority commu-  
6 nities.

7 (2) Because of the tremendous lifesaving poten-  
8 tial of human embryonic stem cell research, there is  
9 a need to eliminate barriers to such research created  
10 by appropriations law, including section 510 of the  
11 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services,  
12 and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations  
13 Act, 2001 (as enacted by section 1(a) of Public Law  
14 106–554). That section prohibits the use of funds  
15 made available in that Act for “the creation of a  
16 human embryo or embryos for research purposes” or  
17 “research in which a human embryo or embryos are  
18 destroyed, discarded, or knowingly subjected to risk  
19 of injury or death”.

20 (3) Past investments in biomedical research  
21 have resulted in better health, an improved quality  
22 of life for all people in the United States, and a re-  
23 duction in national health care expenditures.

24 (4) The Nation’s commitment to biomedical re-  
25 search has expanded the base of scientific knowledge

1 about health and disease and revolutionized the  
2 practice of medicine.

3 (5) Many people in the United States face seri-  
4 ous and life-threatening health problems, both acute  
5 and chronic.

6 (6) Neurodegenerative diseases of the elderly,  
7 such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, threat-  
8 en to destroy the lives of millions of people in the  
9 United States.

10 (7) Cancer remains a comprehensive threat to  
11 any tissue or organ of the body at any age and re-  
12 mains a leading cause of morbidity and mortality.

13 (8) The extent of psychiatric and neurological  
14 diseases poses considerable challenges in under-  
15 standing the workings of the brain and nervous sys-  
16 tem.

17 (9) Diabetes, including insulin dependent and  
18 non-insulin dependent diabetes, afflicts 16,000,000  
19 people in the United States and places them at risk  
20 for acute and chronic complications, including blind-  
21 ness, kidney failure, atherosclerosis, and nerve de-  
22 generation.

23 (10) Recent scientific developments show that  
24 human stem cell research based on ethically respon-  
25 sible stem cell sources may lead to exponential im-

1        improvements in the treatment of many terminal and  
2        debilitating conditions, from cancer to Parkinson’s  
3        disease to Alzheimer’s disease to diabetes to heart  
4        disease.

5            (11) World renowned scientists are leaving the  
6        United States to conduct research in nations that  
7        support and fund human embryonic stem cell re-  
8        search.

9        **SEC. 3. STUDIES USING HUMAN PLURIPOTENT STEM**  
10            **CELLS.**

11        The Director of the National Institutes of Health  
12        shall conduct or support research using pluripotent stem  
13        cells derived from human embryos that were created for  
14        the purposes of fertility treatment and were in excess of  
15        the clinical need of the individuals seeking such treatment.

16        **SEC. 4. REPEAL OF PROHIBITION OF FUNDING FOR CER-**  
17            **TAIN RESEARCH INVOLVING HUMAN EM-**  
18            **BRYOS.**

19        Section 510 of the Departments of Labor, Health and  
20        Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies  
21        Appropriations Act, 2001 (as enacted by section 1(a) of  
22        Public Law 106–554) (prohibiting the use of funds for  
23        certain research involving human embryos), is hereby re-  
24        pealed.

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