

BROWN, R.A.



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

1230 YORK AVENUE

NEW YORK, NY 10021

June 28, 1979

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

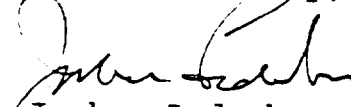
The Honorable Richard A. Brown
Counsel to the Governor
Executive Chambers
State Capitol
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Mr. Brown:

I understand that Governor Carey is considering the wisdom of S5200A, concerning the regulation of standardized admissions tests. Let me say at the outset that I am not speaking from concern about the immediate impact of this Bill on my own (graduate) institution, which would be marginal. However, I would urge that the Governor veto the Bill as I believe it to be poor educational and social policy, hastily drafted and enacted, and hardly given the debate and consideration that it deserves. Surely any step that would enlarge the bureaucratic complication of our educational systems should be withheld, unless there is a compelling and clear showing of benefit to match the onerous administrative burdens and inevitable unexpected side effects of the proposed regulation. Besides these problems of implementation, I would urge the State to consider very carefully the dangers to pluralistic education that attend every creeping encroachment by State regulatory authority, even when well intended.

If there are serious problems with testing procedures they should be by all means investigated and aired: there is no logic in undertaking new police action until such a showing has been made.

Yours sincerely,



Joshua Lederberg

bcc: Dear David