



**THE AMERICAN
SOCIETY FOR
CELL
BIOLOGY**

NATIONAL OFFICE: 9650 Rockville Pike Bethesda, Maryland 20814-3992
TEL: 301/530 7153 • FAX: 301/530 7139 • E-MAIL: ascbinfo@ascb.org • www.ascb.org/ascb

February 4, 1998

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue
New York, NY 10021

Dear Josh:


As you are aware, the issue of cloning has come again into the public spotlight by the perhaps inevitable effort of an individual to clone human beings. This action and the publicity it has engendered has inspired calls for legislation regulating "cloning" by the Congress and the Administration. It is hoped that Congress would accept the caution of the National Bioethics Advisory Commission that any legislation be carefully written so as not to interfere with other important areas of scientific research.

The real danger of some bills that have already been proposed is that if they reach beyond the narrow illegalization of cloning human beings to inadvertently or intentionally limit important biomedical research.

To prevent this outcome, I am requesting your endorsement and that of other fellow Nobelists of the attached letter. If you are willing to co-sign, please complete and return the enclosed form as soon as possible but no later than Monday, February 9 by 12 noon Eastern time, to the American Society for Cell Biology.

Thank you very much for your immediate consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Paul Berg, Ph.D.
Cahill Professor of Cancer Research
Director of the Beckman Center for
Molecular & Genetic Medicine
Stanford University
Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 1980
Chair, ASCB Public Policy Committee

OFFICERS

ELIZABETH H. BLACKBURN
President

RANDY SCHIEKMAN
President-elect

MINA J. BISSELL
Past-President

GEORGE M. LANGFORD
Secretary

CARL M. COHEN
Treasurer

ELIZABETH MARINCOLA
Executive Director

COUNCIL

MARY BECKERLE
IRA HERSKOWITZ
RICHARD O. HYNES
MARY LEE S. LIPPETTER
JENNIFER LIPPINCOTT-SCHWARTZ
ANTHONY E. MAHOWALD
W. JAMES NELSON
ERIC N. OLSON
PAMELA A. SUMER
KAI SIMONS
SUSAN STROME
LYDIA VILLA-KOMAROFF

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

RICHARD G.W. ANDERSON
Constitution & By-Laws

FRANK SOLOMON
Education

CARL M. COHEN
Finance

KAI SIMONS
International Affairs

RIK DERYNCK
Local Arrangements

GEORGE M. LANGFORD
Membership

J. K. HAYNES
Minorities Affairs

JOSEPH G. GALL
Nominating

KATHERINE L. WILSON
Public Information

PAUL BERG
Public Policy

JENNIFER LIPPINCOTT-SCHWARTZ
Scientific Meetings

ZENA WERB
Women in Cell Biology

**MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF
THE CELL**

DAVID BOTSTEIN
Editor-in-chief