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445-4651

# California Legislature

JAN 15 1971

## Assembly General Research Committee

ROOM 436, STATE CAPITOL

January 5, 1971

Professor Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
School of Medicine  
Stanford University  
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Joshua:

The enclosed is the material you requested on the Commission on Manpower, Automation and Technology.

I was interested to learn that you have joined the Board of Trustees of the Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.. I very much agree that there is need for much greater legislative effort to define standards in the environmental field. I think the statutory approach is much sounder than having the courts make decisions on a case by case basis in those areas where the legislative body has failed to act.

I am impressed with the need for a new cost accounting as a basis for assessing the true environmental impact of proposed public and private actions.

Now that we have ASTAC organized, I hope we can keep it moving during this period of legislative transition. I view it as the beginning of an effort to institutionalize a system for involving academic and other experts in the policy problems of state government.

Best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely,



Albert J. Lipson  
Chief Consultant  
to the Assembly

AJL:lhs  
Enclosure

LIPSON, ALBERT