Senate Leaders Call for Vote to Expand the Embryonic Stem Cell Policy

On May 16, bipartisan members of the Senate called for Senate floor action on S 471, the companion bill to HR 810, The Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act passed by the House on May 24, 2005. The legislation would expand federally-funded research to stem cell lines created after the Bush Administration’s implementation of its policy in August 2001. At the event, Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) read a letter from former First Lady Nancy Reagan imploring the Senate to act. On June 15, Cong. Mike Castle (R-DE), co-sponsor of HR 810, commented that “advancements in other countries or through private research in the United States may ultimately place more pressure on the Senate to take action.” Visit www.eyeresearch.org to send an email letter urging passage of S 471.

“For those who are waiting every day for scientific progress to help their loved ones, the wait for United States Senate action has been very difficult and hard to comprehend.” — Former First Lady Nancy Reagan

Left to Right: Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)