

KENNEDY, HARKIN ANNOUNCE JOINT HEARING ON STEM CELL RESEARCH

Joint Hearing between Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senators Ted Kennedy (D-MA) and Tom Harkin (D-IA) today announced that they will hold a joint stem cell hearing, “Can Congress Help Fulfill the Promise of Stem Cell Research?” on **Friday, January 19 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Dirksen Senate Office Building, **SD 192**. Kennedy is the Chairman of the HELP Committee and Harkin is the Chairman of the LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee.

The joint hearing will specifically examine the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act, legislation introduced in Congress designed to expand the current federal funding policy for stem cell research. The bill is identical to the bill that both houses of Congress passed last year, with strong, bipartisan majorities. Regrettably, the President chose to exercise the first – and, so far, the only – veto of his administration to reject the bill.

Witnesses for the hearing include:

Panel I

Story Landis, Ph.D
Director, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

Panel II

George Daley, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Boston

Lauren Stanford
Juvenile diabetes patient, Plymouth, MA.

John E. Wagner Jr., M.D.
Professor of Pediatrics University of Minnesota Medical School