

From: THE NEW YORK STEM CELL FOUNDATION

Rubenstein Communications, Inc.

Contact: Deborah Raskin (212) 843-8028

David Falkenstein (212) 843-8281

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE NEW YORK STEM CELL FOUNDATION CONGRATULATES
CONGRESS ON THE BI-PARTISAN PASSAGE OF THE STEM
CELL RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT ACT**

NEW YORK, NY (January 11, 2007) – Today’s passage of the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act in the House of Representatives shows that Congress could “put hope above politics,” said Susan Solomon, president of the New York Stem Cell Foundation (NYSCF).

The legislation would permit federal support for embryonic stem cell research utilizing stem cell lines derived from frozen embryos that are stored at fertility clinics and otherwise slated to be destroyed.

“Lead sponsors of this legislation, Representatives Diana DeGette (D-CO), Mike Castle (R-DE) and Jim Langevin (D-RI), have once again opened the door to expand federal funding of embryonic stem cell research, and provide scientists the tools to further examine disease and disease development.”

“We feel that the President’s restrictive policy has directly impeded research that provides a hope for cures for millions of Americans,” said Dr. Kevin Eggan, Scientific Director of the New York Stem Cell Foundation. “We have seen how this ban has discouraged our colleagues from pursuing potentially lifesaving work and lessened our nation’s standing in the global community of medical research.”

More than 100 million Americans suffer from cancer, Parkinsons, Alzheimers, diabetes, spinal cord injuries and other debilitating diseases and disorders for which embryonic stem cell research may hold the keys to better treatments and potentially cures.

According to Solomon, patients, their families, friends and caregivers have asked Congress to lift restrictions and fully fund this important science. This legislation ethically funds scientists across the United States and will encourage young scientists to move into this important field of research.

“We now look to the United States Senate to pass this important legislation and send it to the President’s desk for his signature,” Solomon concluded.

For more information, please visit www.nyscf.org.

About The New York Stem Cell Foundation:

Founded in 2005, the New York Stem Cell Foundation (NYSCF) is a privately-funded foundation dedicated to furthering human embryonic stem cell research to advance the search for cures of the major diseases of our time. The foundation opened its first privately-funded laboratory in March 2006 to serve as a “safe haven” where scientists from academic medical centers in the New York area and throughout the East Coast can conduct advanced human embryonic stem cell research free of the federal restrictions that limit the scope of government-supported work. The organization’s missions are: to support scientists engaged in human embryonic stem cell (hESC) research and somatic cell nuclear transfer (SCNT), through grants, fellowships and symposia; to educate the public about the importance and potential benefits of human embryonic stem cell (hESC) research and somatic cell nuclear transfer (SCNT); and to establish new collaborative, state-of-the-art research facilities supported entirely with private funds and directly focused on curing disease.

###