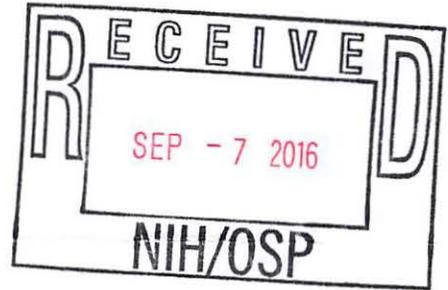


BETTY R. MCKINLEY
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September 1, 2016



Office of Science Policy
National Institutes of Health
6705 Rockledge Drive, Suite 750
Bethesda, MD 20892

Ladies and Gentlemen:

**RE: NIH INTENTION TO LIFT MORATORIUM ON FUNDING RESEARCH
INVOLVING THE INJECTION OF HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS INTO
ANIMAL EMBRYOS**

I write to register my strong objections to lifting this moratorium. There are simply too many risks involved in this research and taxpayers should not be forced to finance research that is so potentially dangerous and morally questionable.

The very idea of creating part-human and part-animal organisms (chimeras) is repugnant; asking taxpayers to fund it is even more so.

It is wrong to kill human embryos in order to harvest their stem cells.

The development of embryonic stem cells in laboratory settings has been found to be very unpredictable.

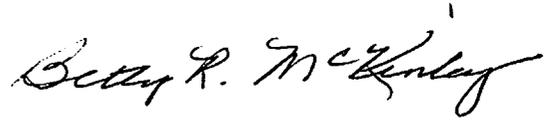
This research involves creating animals that could conceivably have human sperm or eggs. This is **SCARY** stuff! Once this door is opened, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to insure that such animals will not be permitted to breed.

It is clear that NIH has not "undertaken a deliberative process to evaluate the state of the science in this area, the ethical issues that should be considered, and the relevant animal welfare concerns associated with these types of studies" since in announcing the intension to rescind the moratorium mention was made of only one workshop, held in November 2015, "to review the state of the science and discuss animal welfare issues." The deliberative process during the moratorium was to have included a review of "ethical issues," but in the statement of intent to lift the moratorium there is no

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reference to any such discussion. One can only conclude that there was no review of ethical concerns surrounding the creation and manipulation of partly human animals.

Such controversial research should not be resumed at taxpayers' expense!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Betty R. McKinley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

Betty R. McKinley