

TO: Members of the State Senate  
FROM: Kristi Thorson, Lisa Maroney and Don Nelson  
DATE: September 20, 2005  
RE: **Support Stem Cell Research – Amend Assembly Bill 499**

The state Senate is expected to take up soon Assembly Bill 499. AB 499, as currently amended, would not only ban both human cloning – which the University supports – but also a promising avenue of research related to embryonic stem cell research known as “therapeutic cloning.” **We hope you will join the 69% of Wisconsin residents who support embryonic stem cell research (Public Opinion Strategies, May 2005) and support an amendment that will allow this promising area of research to continue while prohibiting human cloning.**

As you consider this matter, we thought you might find useful a letter UW-Madison Professor Jamie Thomson sent to Representative Steve Kestell earlier this summer (enclosed). In it he describes the consequences to Wisconsin of passing Assembly Bill 499 without amending it to protect stem cell research.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this matter. Please call us (Kristi: 262-4809, Lisa: 265-1653, Don: 265-4105) if you have any questions.

Enclosure