

## Eshoo Votes for Stem Cell Research Expansion

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WASHINGTON, DC -- Undeterred by President Bush's threat to veto H.R. 810, Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2005, Representative Anna Eshoo (CA-14) joined 237 House colleagues today in voting for this legislation, which will expand federally-funded stem cell research and will greatly enhance the United State's capability of curing many of the most devastating chronic illnesses.

"The public, researchers and industry are looking to Congress for leadership," stated Eshoo. "Stem cell research should not be about politics. It should be about science, medicine and hope."

Representative Eshoo further stressed that by failing to embrace stem cell research the federal government will only delay medical breakthroughs and stunt biotechnological innovation in the United States. "This research will happen, regardless if this bill is signed into law --- we just won't have the control we need to make sure the research is conducted effectively, efficiently, and ethically. The research will happen outside the U.S., and we will yield our country's position as a leader in the advancement of new technology. More importantly, by failing to fund this research we deny hope to millions of Americans suffering from chronic and life-threatening illnesses."

With passage of H.R. 810, the bill moves on to the Senate where a majority is thought to favor passage. Should President Bush follow through with his veto threat, a 2/3 majority in both Houses of Congress will be required to override.

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