

October 4, 2006

Elton Humphery Secretary, Australian Senate Community Affairs Committee Parliament House Canberra Act 2600

Dear Mr Humphery,

Legislative responses to recommendations of the Lockhart Review

I am writing to support the full implementation of the Lockhart Review's recommendations. This document is a scholarly, balanced and authoritative view of the field and provides an ethical way forward in dealing with section 25(3) of the *Prohibition of Human Cloning Act 2002* and section 47(3) of the *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002*. I commend the committee chaired by the late Justice Lockhart, AO QC on their outstanding work for the benefit of all Australians.

My only qualification of the Lockhart Review's recommendations is, consistent with my submission at the public hearings, that establishment of an Australian Stem Cell Bank may not be necessary owing to the availability of accessible banks elsewhere and the costs involved. If, as recommended by the Review, an Australian Stem Cell Bank is to be established, then new funding for that should be provided, rather than diverting existing funding from more pressing research matters.

Yours truly,

John Rasko

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