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## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003

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Kathy Murray  
President and CEO  
Northwestern Memorial Foundation  
750 North Lake Shore drive, Suite 542  
Chicago, Ill 60611

Dear Ms Murray,

I wanted to convey my support for Dr. Richard Burt's program on adult stem cell transplantation for autoimmune diseases and tissue regeneration at Northwestern Memorial Hospital/Northwestern University. As a life-long Chicago native and twenty-year member of the United States Congress, I am pleased that this program is in my hometown. His team has attracted national and international news coverage and referral of patients from around the globe.

Dr. Burt recognized the potential of tissue regeneration from stem cells long before the concept became widely acknowledged, and has successfully pioneered a new field of immune-regeneration in patients with autoimmune diseases. This was accomplished with adult stem cells, avoiding any controversy and concerns inherent to human life that stigmatizes embryonic stem cells. I understand that his team is now working on clinical trials to regenerate other tissue such as the heart and peripheral blood vessels, again from adult stem cells. Such progress will forever end the divisive stem-cell debate within Congress, and increase public and political support for stem-cell research.

Dr. Burt is recognized in both the medical literature and lay press as the world leader in this area. I congratulate you in providing the environment for this program to develop. Such a program, especially one that has gained the attention of members of the U.S. Congress, needs infrastructure support to flourish and is the ideal program of excellence for priority research. This is a unique opportunity for Northwestern, Chicago, and our country to advance the care and treatment of diseases that afflict a large portion of women worldwide.

Your support for Dr. Burt's program will immeasurably advance the field, and in turn, the reputation of Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Many people, including some of my constituents, will be helped by your support and investment into the future of this visionary medical program.

As you can guess, Dr. Burt has my full confidence, admiration and respect. He has helped to give new hope to several of my constituents when they previously had none.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (202) 225-5701. With best wishes and kind regards, I remain

Sincerely,



WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI  
Member of Congress