FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LEADING RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES APPLAUD HOUSE PASSAGE OF CASTLE-DEGETTE STEM CELL LEGISLATION

Following is a statement by Nils Hasselmo, President of the Association of American Universities, congratulating the House of Representatives on passage of H.R. 810, the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act.

The nation’s research universities applaud House passage today of H.R. 810, the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act, introduced by Representatives Castle and DeGette. It is our hope that the Senate will act soon on H.R. 810 as well. It is also our hope that if this bill comes to President Bush for his signature, he will consider allowing it to become law.

Those who live with ailments like spinal cord injury, Parkinson’s, and child diabetes, and their families, deserve to know that their government is pursuing all appropriate avenues of research to improve their lives. The nation’s research universities and other health research facilities are ready, willing, and able to conduct that research. With this courageous, bipartisan vote, the House has brought us closer to the day when the nation fulfills its potential for leadership in this critical field, and it has brought hope to millions of suffering families in the United States and around the world.

We extend our thanks to Mr. Castle, Ms. DeGette, the more than 200 cosponsors from both parties of H.R. 810, and all who voted in favor of this legislation today.

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The Association of American Universities is an association of 60 U.S. and two Canadian research universities organized to develop and implement effective national and institutional policies supporting research and scholarship, graduate and professional education, undergraduate education, and public service in research universities.