

10 June 1997

Harold Varmus, M.D. Director National Institutes of Health Building One, Room 126 9000 Wisconsin Avenue Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Dear Dr. Varmus:

I write to urge you to deny a request by CellPro Inc. for "march in rights" under the Bayh-Dole Act in its licensing and patent dispute with Johns Hopkins University.

You no doubt are aware of the details of this case. If these "march in rights" were allowed, our technology licensing program would be seriously undermined. This precedent would pose a grave threat to the success of the Bayh-Dole Act in encouraging university-industry partnerships and may well put into jeopardy the kind of investments needed today to take medical discoveries through the lengthy processes necessary to bring them to the public.

... I trust that you will take all these considerations into account, and once again ask that you reject CellPro's request.

Sincerely,

Gerhard Casper

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