

WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

**For Immediate Release
November 3, 2005**

CATHOLIC CONFERENCE DISAPPOINTED AS GOVERNOR VETOES HUMAN CLONING BAN

John Huebscher, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Catholic Conference, issued the following statement regarding Governor Doyle's veto of Assembly Bill 499:

While the Governor's action today had been anticipated, we are nevertheless deeply disappointed. His vision for Wisconsin's dominance in the field of biotechnology is accompanied by blinders that obscure a basic fact – affirmed by the majority in the state legislature and the majority of Wisconsin citizens – that human cloning is fundamentally wrong.

The future health of Wisconsin's economy and Wisconsin's citizens cannot rest on the promotion of research that turns human life into little more than a commodity. Human cloning produces a human embryo. The human embryo is human life. Human life has inherent dignity.

While the Governor vetoes this bill in the name of economic opportunity, we view today's action as a missed opportunity to lead Wisconsin on a truly visionary path.

Although the law now will not prevent cloning, we hope the consciences of individual researchers will. All citizens should continue to encourage them to pursue research techniques that are worthy of the noble ends they seek.

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