



March 9, 2009

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**Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology**

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**FASEB APPLAUDS PRESIDENT OBAMA FOR LIFTING RESTRICTIONS ON FUNDING  
FOR HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH**

*Bethesda, MD* – Richard Marchase, President of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), praised the decision by President Barack Obama to permit federal funding for human embryonic stem cell research. “This is a great step forward for science and for health,” Marchase stated. “As a result, more researchers will be able to conduct the fundamental research that will lead to new treatments for many different diseases.”

Marchase pointed out that federal funding of stem cell research brings this important area of science under the regulatory oversight of the government. “We are confident that the National Institutes of Health will be able to develop guidelines that will assure the public that this research will conform to the highest ethical standards,” Marchase noted. “We have waited many years for this moment, and I also want to thank the many people in the patient advocacy and research communities who worked so hard to make this happen.”

“It is important to also recognize that this order on stem cell research is part of a broader change in policy that will insulate federal science policy from inappropriate political influence,” Marchase added, referring to the [presidential memorandum](#) ordering the Office of Science and Technology Policy to ensure that people appointed to federal science positions have strong credentials and that the vetting process for scientific information is not influenced by political censorship.

*FASEB is composed of 22 societies with more than 80,000 members, making it the largest coalition of biomedical research associations in the United States. FASEB enhances the ability of biomedical and life scientists to improve—through their research—the health, well-being and productivity of all people. Our mission is to advance health and welfare by promoting progress and education in biological and biomedical sciences through service to its member societies and collaborative advocacy.*