

PETER H. DOMINICK
COLORADO

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

October 4, 1971

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics
Department of Genetics
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford University Medical Center
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Thank you for your letter of September 22 and the copy of your article in the Washington Post regarding hurricane modification.

I thought the article was excellent and agree with your analysis. I haven't seen the Stanford Research Institute report, but I have asked a member of my staff to look through it. There is no question that whether to move from research into operations is essentially a political decision. So Congress must share the blame for irretrievable opportunities lost while a decision is postponed. Failure to decide is often the equivalent of deciding to take no action.

Overcoming the ignorance and misinformation about weather modification in order to lay the basis for a reasonable decision is a formidable problem. As far as Congress is concerned, debate on legislation is probably as good an approach as any. But I don't really know how to go about educating the public. I do intend to continue expressing my views on this, though.

Thanks again for sharing your thinking with me.

Best regards.

Sincerely,


Peter H. Dominick
United States Senator

PHD:cwm