August 30, 1967

Professor Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
Stanford University School of Medicine  
Stanford Medical Center  
Palo Alto, California 94304

Dear Professor Lederberg:

I appreciate your thoughtful views about the issues posed in funding our space activities and will have them in mind when the Senate Appropriations Committee considers the supply bill for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration a few weeks hence.

As you note, the fiscal pressures upon the Congress and the Executive Branch are heavy, indeed, and a multitude of desirable projects and programs require intense evaluation in the interest of prudence and sound policy.

Since the Budget requests were submitted, Congress has concluded that certain intended activities in the space field should be retarded or deferred and the President, as you may have learned from news dispatches, concurs in various reductions by the House in funds for NASA operations. The matter of flexibility in reprogramming appropriations is receiving thoughtful attention from members of the Subcommittee reviewing the pending measure. Incidentally, the bill does allow limited transfers for approved purposes although money was denied for a number of contemplated activities, the urgency of which was not persuasively shown.

I want to see all justifiable support provided for efforts of promise and given deserved priority, so I shall review the Subcommittee conclusions and recommendations carefully.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

THOMAS H. KUCHEL  
United States Senator