

STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
STANFORD MEDICAL CENTER
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DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS
Professor Joshua Lederberg

July 9, 1970

Dear Senator Tydings

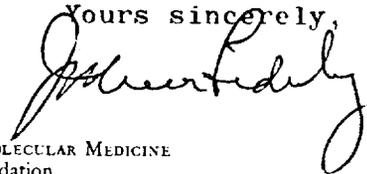
I realize it is rather late in the day to introduce further comments on your bill S. 1980 on class actions, which I have been following with the deepest interest. As noted in the accompanying article, this kind of process has the most important implications for an equitable readjustment of rights and powers that underlie democratic society.

May I nevertheless enter a plea for your consideration of the proposed amendment to legitimize the voluntary citizens' organizations which are, I believe, necessary for the most vital realization of the purposes of your bill.

If you are in accord with its purposes, there remains the question of the most politic way to secure its adoption. I realize that you may be reluctant to confuse what may be a hard-won victory nearly in hand -- which is the motive of paragraph 3 of the attached notes. On the other hand I fear that it may be difficult to mobilize the energy needed for further refinements after various bills now pending are acted upon by the current Congress.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance in this area.

Yours sincerely,



LT. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, JR. LABORATORIES FOR MOLECULAR MEDICINE
dedicated to the study of mental retardation
Molecular Biology Heredity Neurobiology Developmental Medicine