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House of Representatives

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

HARRISBURG

June 12, 2001

The Honorable Charles B. Zogby, Secretary Department of Education 10th Floor, Harristown 2 333 Market Street Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

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Dear Secretary Zogby:

I want to express my support for the Department of Education's Proposed Academic Standards for Science and Technology and their impact on the Darwinian theory of evolution.

Without question, scientists, such as biochemist Michael Behe, show that neo-Darwinists have failed to explain the origin of complex molecular machines in living systems. Dr. Jonathan Wells had written numerous scholarly articles and books challenging the very pillars of Darwinian theory. Dr. William Dembski, who has a doctorate in mathematics from the University of Chicago, has developed what he calls a "mathematical explanatory filter" that he asserts can distinguish randomness from complexity designed by an intelligent agent. He explained this idea in The Design Inference, Cambridge University Press, 1998.

These are just a few examples of how modern technology is allowing these scientists to explore areas of science theretofore unknown -- not to mention the discovery of DNA and the 30,000 genes in the human DNA, thus uncovering a new range of scientific exploration into the human anatomy. These kinds of scientific discoveries are opening up a new frontier for the scientist.

Pennsylvania schools should be at the forefront in allowing all these discoveries to be placed against the evolutionary model of "life beginning from a single cell." Debating scientific theories is an integral part of science itself. If the teacher presents this information in a very objective manner, the results will speak for themselves.

I appreciate the opportunity to make this presentation on the above-referenced proposals.

Sincerely,

PAUL I. CLYMER
State Representative

145th Legislative District