

**PRESIDENTIAL**

October 7, 1999

**ADVISORY**

**COUNCIL ON**

**HIV/AIDS**

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As your Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, we are writing to request your support for the "Lifesaving Vaccine Technology Act of 1999". During our October meeting we unanimously voted to support the intent of this legislation.

As you are aware the development, testing, and implementation of a vaccine against HIV will require the concerted and coordinated effort of relevant branches of the Federal government, as well as the strong commitment of private-sector industry. Numerous financial impediments currently discourage the pharmaceutical industry to participate fully in the generation of vaccines against AIDS, malaria, TB, and other catastrophic infections.

The Lifesaving Vaccine Technology Act of 1999 (H.R. 1274) would provide tax credit for qualified research and development costs associated with generation of these vaccines, similar to the research and development credits which are currently provided to other types of technology. Further, since the vast majority of HIV-, TB-, and malaria-infected individuals reside in resource-poor areas of the world, the Act also requires companies that use the tax credit to establish a good faith plan for the widest possible global access to any efficacious vaccine which may be developed.

The Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS strongly supports the intent of H.R. 1274, and hereby urges the Administration to support and work strongly toward passage of this Act in the Congress.

Mr. President, your active support of the "Lifesaving Vaccine Technology Act of 1999" could be tremendously helpful in achieving your laudable goal of developing an AIDS vaccine within the next ten years.

Thank you for your continuing attention to this important issue. We will appreciate your assistance with the passage of this legislation.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by RSH on 10/7/99)

R. Scott Hitt, M.D.  
Chair

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