

Michael Crichton

Tuesday, May 15, 2007

Congressman Xavier Becerra
1119 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-6235

Dear Xavier:

I am writing you today in support of your bill HR 977, the legislation to ban the further patenting of genes. No one knows better than you that this is a vital issue for patient rights and medical costs in the twenty-first century.

Ordinarily we think of patents as promoting innovation and protecting industry, but gene patents do not. They arise from a regulatory error by the patent office, and in just a few short years they have had disastrous consequences. Studies show that the pace of medical research is slowed, the quality of patient care is reduced, and the cost to patients vastly increased.

Thank you again for your efforts on this issue.

With warm personal regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Crichton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent "M" and "C".

Michael Crichton