Purpose: To recognize the scientific contributions in the fight against disease made by politicians in Congress.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—110th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. 579

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer.

Viz:

1 At the appropriate place, insert the following:

2 SEC. ____ . TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY.

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the authority provided to the National Institutes of Health with respect to the conduct of research and the awarding of grants relating to cancer shall be transferred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.
(b) Peer Review.—Peer-review of research carried out under subsection (a) shall be conducted by the staff of the majority leader of the Senate and the majority and minority staff members of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

(c) Priority.—In determining the priority for conducting research are provided for under subsection (a), the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate shall consult with the appropriate lobbyists, paid staff of nonprofit advocacy organizations, or celebrity spokespersons.

(d) Special Consideration.—In awarding research funds under this section, the staff of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate shall take into special consideration research projects with—

1. the greatest number of Washington, D.C. lobbyists advocating for such projects;
2. the greatest number of editorials and media articles advocating for such projects, particularly when they appear in publications in States represented by Senators serving on the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate; and
(3) the greatest number of pharmaceutical, biotech, or device companies advocating for the projects.

(e) REPORTS.—As often as possible, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate shall issue press releases claiming credit for the progress made by real scientists in medical advances against cancer that were made possible by the micromanagement of the National Institutes of Health by Congress.