

# Ohio House of Representatives



**For immediate release:** Monday, October 30, 2006  
**Contact:** Kelley Robinson (614) 466-8012

Today, Representative Kenny Yuko (D-Richmond Heights) attended a press conference with Congressman Sherrod Brown at the Moritz College of Law located on the Ohio State University campus. In attendance was actor Michael J. Fox, who strongly supports stem cell research. Fox, who suffers from Parkinson's disease, is currently traveling all over the country encouraging voters to elect candidates who support the research.

During the press conference Congressman Brown acknowledged Representative Yuko's House Bill 434, which would permit embryonic stem cell research in Ohio.

"The goal here is to keep hope alive for the hundreds of thousands of Ohioans now trying to cope with tragic medical conditions that could be treated one day through stem cell research," Yuko said. "We can ban human cloning while still offering hope to sick Ohioans."

The issue of stem cell research is personal for Yuko, who announced on the House floor last June that he suffers from multiple sclerosis, a disease scientists say may one day benefit from stem cell research. Stem cell research is also thought to have the potential to help treat burn victims, spinal cord injuries, juvenile diabetes, Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease.

Embryonic stem cell research could mean new treatments for debilitating or deadly conditions. 3,152,958 Ohioans are afflicted with Alzheimer's, diabetes, arthritis, multiple sclerosis and ALS alone.

Much stem-cell research opposition comes from pro-life advocates and organizations. "This research has the potential to save millions, I couldn't imagine anything more pro-life than that," Yuko said.

