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THE WISTAR INSTITUTE

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PATENT BRANCH, OGC

DHEW

File w/ Nelson

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April 25, 1978

Mr. Norman J. Latker
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Health, Education and
Welfare
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D. C. 20201

Dear Mr. Latker:

I have recently had several exchanges of correspondence with Senators Gaylord Nelson (Wisconsin) and Russell Long (Louisiana) on the assignment by HEW of patent rights to institutions such as Wistar. I recently received this relatively long response from Senator Russell which indicates that he is taking a very hard line against any such policy in the absence of specific authority derived from legislation.

I have no way of knowing whether his view will prevail; in any case, institutions such as Wistar which have benefited from HEW policy may find themselves the innocent victims of an attack primarily directed elsewhere.

Sincerely yours,

Warren B. Cheston

Warren B. Cheston
Associate Director
for Administration

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Enclosure(s)