

Massachusetts Society for Medical Research, Inc.

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June 29, 2005

The Editors

The Boston Sunday Globe

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Dear Editors:

We support the Globe's strong stand in favor of teaching evidence-based, demonstrable knowledge in the science classrooms of Massachusetts ("False Science," June 26, 2005). Evolution has successfully explained a legion of scientific discoveries since the late 1850s, and more evidence for natural selection as the driving force behind evolution is garnered every day.

Legislators and government officials at every level should do all they can to increase genuine scientific literacy, particularly in the life sciences, while clearly maintaining the boundaries between the teaching of science and the discussion of religious or moral concepts. Well-informed citizens make better medical and environmental decisions, at both the personal and the policy level. And as Massachusetts now moves into high stakes MCAS testing in science, it is particularly important that our state promote not just evolution, but an actual understanding of the scientific method of informed skepticism, rather than sham science.

Sincerely,

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President

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