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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nation Prepares to Celebrate Biomedical Research Awareness Day on Sunday!

SACRAMENTO, CA – October 19, 2007 – Originally designated in 1993 by the U.S. Congress and signed by President William J. Clinton, the California Biomedical Research Association (CBRA) is reminding the public, scientists, and researchers to celebrate “Biomedical Research Awareness Day” on October 21st. The Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology is regarded as the highest honor within the biomedical research community, it is fitting therefore, that founder Alfred Nobel’s birthday should be celebrated as “Biomedical Research Awareness Day.” On this day the nation honors the vital role biomedical research plays in improving human and animal health.

Through biomedical research, scientists have developed vaccines against polio, measles, and smallpox; treatments have been discovered for the many forms of cancer including leukemia, lymphoma, breast cancer, and Hodgkin’s disease; and cures have been found for many other serious illnesses. The same methods that have been developed to prevent and treat diseases in humans have improved the lives of countless animals as well. Vaccines have been developed to fight animal diseases, such as rabies and distemper in dogs and cats, and feline leukemia. Treatments have included the use of artificial joints for dogs, surgery and cures for pet cancer and heart disease. In addition, biomedical research has helped preserve endangered and/or nearly extinct animals due to advancements in artificial insemination, and other new reproductive techniques.

“The extraordinary breakthroughs we have experienced in our lifetime have been the direct result of the dedicated work of scientists and researchers. All humans, regardless of their beliefs, have benefited from the astounding improvements in care and treatment, and the new discoveries that lead to cures. Those who seek to end biomedical research using animals endanger all of us,” stated Dr. Amanda Carson Banks, President of the CBRA, California’s only non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and protecting the continued advancement of human and animal health through biomedical research, teaching, and testing.