

Human Genome Project leader weighs in on Supreme Court gene patenting case

The following is an edited excerpt.

Late last year, the nation's highest court said it would consider [a legal challenge to patents that biotechnology company Myriad Genetics holds on genes linked to risk of breast cancer](#). Now, Eric Lander—a leader of the Human Genome Project, scientific adviser to President Obama, and head of the Broad Institute in Cambridge—has weighed in, filing an amicus brief.

The [document](#), carefully described as Lander's personal view, argues that Myriad has patented products of nature, which are ineligible for such protection. The patents, Lander argues, are an “insurmountable barrier” to studying the DNA, with serious repercussions for medical progress.

Read the full article here: [Eric Lander, human genome project leader, weighs in on Supreme Court gene patenting case](#)