CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A recombinant vector for expression of a target gene in a host cell, comprising:

a promoter comprising a nucleic acid sequence having at least 70% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1;

a cloning site for insertion of a nucleic acid encoding the target gene; and

at least one non-promoter regulatory element required for the expression of the target gene in the host cell.

2. The recombinant vector of claim 1, wherein the vector is a viral vector.

3. The recombinant vector of claim 2, wherein the viral vector is an adeno-associated virus (AAV) vector.

4. The recombinant vector of claim 1, wherein the vector is a non-viral vector.

5. The recombinant vector of any of claims 1-4, wherein the host cell is a mammalian cell.

6. A recombinant polynucleotide molecule comprising a nucleic acid encoding a target gene, wherein the nucleic acid is operably linked to a promoter comprising a nucleic acid sequence having at least 70% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1.

7. The recombinant polynucleotide molecule of claim 6, wherein the promoter comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1.

8. The recombinant polynucleotide molecule of claim 7, wherein the promoter comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.

9. The recombinant polynucleotide molecule of any one of claims 6-8, wherein the nucleic acid encoding the target gene comprises more than 4 kilobases.

10. A recombinant polynucleotide molecule comprising a cloning site for insertion of a nucleic acid encoding a target gene, wherein the cloning site is operably linked to a

promoter comprising a nucleic acid having at least 70% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1.

11. The recombinant polynucleotide molecule of claim 10, wherein the promoter comprises a nucleic acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 1.

12. The recombinant polynucleotide molecule of claim 11, wherein the promoter comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.