

2004

Stem Cell Research. Funding. Bonds. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute

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BALLOT MEASURE SUMMARY

PROP

71

Stem Cell Research. Funding. Bonds. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

Summary

This measure establishes “California Institute for Regenerative Medicine” to regulate and fund stem cell research, constitutional right to conduct such research, and oversight committee. Prohibits funding of human reproductive cloning research. Fiscal Impact: State cost of about \$6 billion over 30 years to pay off both the principal (\$3 billion) and interest (\$3 billion) on the bonds. State payments averaging about \$200 million per year.

What Your Vote Means

Yes

A **YES** vote on this measure means: The state would establish a new state medical research institute and authorize the issuance of \$3 billion in state general obligation bonds to provide funding for stem cell research and research facilities in California.

No

A **NO** vote on this measure means: Funding for stem cell research in California would depend upon actions by the Legislature and Governor and other entities which provide research funding.

Arguments

Pro

71 authorizes stem cell research to find new CURES FOR CANCER, HEART DISEASE, DIABETES, and many other diseases, SAVE MILLIONS OF LIVES, and CUT HEALTH CARE COSTS BY BILLIONS. And, 71 prohibits cloning to create babies. Join non-profit disease organizations, Nobel Prize scientists, doctors, and nurses: Vote YES on 71.

Con

Adds \$3 billion of bond debt to California’s massive debt load. Money would fund huge, new bureaucracy to promote human embryo cloning. Few controls, no real accountability for how money is spent. Exempts new bureaucracy from aspects of “open meeting” laws. Opposed by women’s groups, leading doctors, and medical ethicists.

For Additional Information

For

YES on 71: Coalition for Stem Cell Research and Cures
11271 Ventura Blvd.
Studio City, CA 91604
800-931-CURE (2873)
info@YESon71.com
www.YESon71.com

Against

Doctors, Patients, and Taxpayers for Fiscal Responsibility
P.O. Box 2402
Covina, CA 91722
www.NoOn71.com

PROP

72

Health Care Coverage Requirements. Referendum.

Summary

A “Yes” vote approves, and a “No” vote rejects legislation requiring health care coverage for employees, as specified, working for large and medium employers. Fiscal Impact: Significant expenditures fully offset, mainly by employer fees, for a state program primarily to purchase private health insurance coverage. Significant county health program savings. Significant public employer health coverage costs. Significant net state revenue losses. Overall unknown net state and local savings or costs.

What Your Vote Means

Yes

A **YES** vote on this measure means: Certain employers would be required to provide health coverage for their employees and in some cases dependents through either (1) paying a fee to a new state program primarily to purchase private health insurance coverage or (2) arranging directly with health insurance providers for health care coverage. The state would also establish a new program to assist lower-income employees to pay their share of health care premiums.

No

A **NO** vote on this measure means: The state would continue to allow employers to choose whether to provide health insurance for their employees and dependents. The state would not establish a new program to provide assistance to low-income employees in paying premiums for health care coverage at their workplace.

Arguments

Pro

Prop. 72 keeps private health coverage within reach of working families. It requires large and mid-sized companies to pay for private coverage, caps employee share of premiums, and sets coverage standards. Doctors, nurses, and consumers agree: With premiums rising and employees losing health insurance, Prop. 72 provides needed protection.

Con

Proposition 72 creates a government-run healthcare scheme funded by an estimated \$7 billion in new taxes on employers and workers by 2007. You could get forced from your existing plan into the government system and lose access to your doctors and hospitals. Educators, charities, taxpayers, doctors say “NO on 72.”

For Additional Information

For

Anthony Wright
Health Access
1127 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-442-2308
awright@health-access.org
www.YesonProp72.com

Against

Californians Against Government Run Healthcare
1201 K Street, Suite 1100
Sacramento, CA 95814-3938
info@noprop72.org
www.noprop72.org

STEM CELL RESEARCH. FUNDING. BONDS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.

OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY

Prepared by the Attorney General

Stem Cell Research. Funding. Bonds. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

- Establishes “California Institute for Regenerative Medicine” to regulate stem cell research and provide funding, through grants and loans, for such research and research facilities.
- Establishes constitutional right to conduct stem cell research; prohibits Institute’s funding of human reproductive cloning research.
- Establishes oversight committee to govern Institute.
- Provides General Fund loan up to \$3 million for Institute’s initial administration/implementation costs.
- Authorizes issuance of general obligation bonds to finance Institute activities up to \$3 billion subject to annual limit of \$350 million.
- Appropriates monies from General Fund to pay for bonds.

Summary of Legislative Analyst’s Estimate of Net State and Local Government

Fiscal Impact:

- State cost of about \$6 billion over 30 years to pay off both the principal (\$3 billion) and interest (\$3 billion) on the bonds. Payments averaging about \$200 million per year.
- Unknown potential state and local revenue gains and cost savings to the extent that the research projects funded by this measure result in additional economic activity and reduced public health care costs.

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

BACKGROUND

Stem Cell Research. A stem cell is a type of cell found in both animals and humans that has the potential to develop into many different types of specialized cells in the body. Scientists have conducted research on stem cells to better understand how animals and humans develop and how healthy cells replace damaged cells. This research has led to the development of treatments of a variety of cancers and blood disorders. Some scientists believe that stem cell research may, at some point in the future, result in new treatments of diseases. (See the nearby box for additional information on stem cell research.)

California law currently permits research involving stem cells. The University of California (UC) is currently engaged in this type of research. The exact amount of UC research funding devoted to stem cell research could not be determined, but the

available information suggests that the total funds spent for these purposes range from the millions of dollars to the tens of millions of dollars annually.

The federal government provides funding for research that uses different types of stem cells, including adult and embryonic stem cells. In the 2002 federal fiscal year, the federal government dedicated more than \$180 million in funding for stem cell research conducted nationwide. The federal government currently places certain restrictions on funding for research that uses embryonic stem cells.

State law currently prohibits human reproductive cloning, a process to create a human that is an exact genetic copy of another.

General Obligation Bonds. The state generally uses general obligation bond funds to finance major state capital outlay projects. General obligation bonds are backed by the state, meaning that

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST (CONT.)

STEM CELLS AND STEM CELL RESEARCH

What Are Stem Cells? As described by the National Institutes of Health, stem cells differ from other cells in three main ways. First, they are “unspecialized,” meaning they do not perform specialized functions, such as the way heart muscle cells help blood flow or red blood cells carry oxygen through the bloodstream. Second, under certain conditions, they can be transformed into cells with specialized functions. Third, these cells are capable of reproducing themselves over an extended period of time. As a result, these cells can serve as a repair system for the body by replenishing other cells for as long as the person or animal is alive.

What Are Embryonic and Adult Stem Cells? Human embryonic stem cells appear in an embryo, a fertilized human egg, five to seven days after conception. They are ordinarily extracted from extra embryos that have been donated for research by parents who tried to conceive a child through certain procedures performed at fertility clinics. Embryonic stem cells have the potential to develop into all cell types of the body.

Adult stem cells are obtained for scientific research from many organs and tissues including the brain, bone marrow, blood vessels, skin, and the liver. These stem cells are generally limited to becoming the cell type of its tissue of origin.

Why Do Researchers Want to Study Stem Cells? Scientists indicate that there are many ways in which human stem cells can be used in basic and clinical research. Stem cell research may provide information on the complex events that occur during human development that lead to serious medical conditions like cancer and birth defects. Human stem cells could be used to test the safety of drugs. Also, researchers indicate that stem cells offer the possibility of a renewable source of replacement cells and tissues to treat diseases such as Parkinson’s, Alzheimer’s, heart disease, or diabetes, or to treat spinal cord injuries.

the state guarantees payment of the principal and interest costs on these bonds. General Fund revenues are used to pay these costs. These revenues come primarily from the state personal and corporate income taxes and the sales tax. For more information regarding general obligation bonds, please refer to the section of the ballot pamphlet entitled “An Overview of State Bond Debt.”

PROPOSAL

The measure authorizes the state to sell \$3 billion in general obligation bonds to provide funding for stem cell research and research facilities in California. A new state medical research institute would be established to use the bond funds to award grants and loans for stem cell research and research facilities, and to manage stem cell research activities funded by this measure within California. The major provisions of the measure are discussed below.

New State Institute Created. This measure would establish the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine to award grants and loans for stem cell research and research facilities. The institute would also be responsible for establishing regulatory standards for stem cell research funded by the grants and loans and managing such research and the development of related facilities. The institute could have a staff of up to 50 employees who, under the measure, would be exempt from state civil service requirements.

The institute would be governed by a 29-member Independent Citizen’s Oversight Committee (ICOC), comprised of representatives of specified UC campuses, another public or private California university, nonprofit academic and medical research institutions, companies with expertise in developing medical therapies, and disease research advocacy groups. The Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, Controller, Speaker of the Assembly, President pro Tempore of the Senate, and certain UC campus Chancellors would make the appointments to the ICOC.

General Obligation Bond Funding. The measure would authorize the state to sell \$3 billion in general obligation bonds, and limit bond sales to no more than \$350 million per year. The measure states its intent, but does not require in statute, that the bonds be sold during a ten-year period. For at least the first five years after the measure took effect, the repayment of the principal would be postponed and the interest on the debt would be repaid using bond proceeds rather than the

STEM CELL RESEARCH. FUNDING. BONDS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST (CONT.)

General Fund. Subsequent interest and principal payments after that five-year period would come from the General Fund. The proceeds from the bond sales would be placed in a new California Stem Cell Research and Cures Fund and used primarily to fund the various activities of the institute. The funds authorized for the institute would be continuously appropriated without regard to fiscal year.

Once the measure took effect, the institute would receive a \$3 million start-up loan from the state General Fund for initial administrative and implementation costs. The institute would later repay the General Fund loan using the proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized under this measure.

How Funding Would Be Spent. Under the measure, any funding needed for various bond-related costs (for example, the cost of administering the bond sales) would be deducted before bond proceeds were spent for other purposes.

The institute would be able to use up to 3 percent of the remaining bond proceeds for general administrative costs and up to an additional 3 percent for administrative costs associated with grant-making activities. The remaining funds would be used for the grants and loans for research and research facilities.

Priority for research grant funding would be given to stem cell research that met the institute's criteria and was unlikely to receive federal funding. In some cases, funding could also be provided for other types of research that were determined to

cure or provide new types of treatment of diseases and injuries. The institute would not be allowed to fund research on human reproductive cloning.

Up to 10 percent of the funds available for grants and loans could be used to develop scientific and medical research facilities for nonprofit entities within the first five years of the implementation of the measure.

Benefits From Royalties and Patents. The ICOC would establish standards requiring that all grants and loans be subject to agreements allowing the state to financially benefit from patents, royalties, and licenses resulting from the research activities funded under the measure.

Right to Conduct Stem Cell Research. Consistent with current statute, this measure would make conducting stem cell research a state constitutional right.

FISCAL EFFECTS

Borrowing Costs. As noted earlier, this measure provides that no General Fund payments for the bonds would occur in the first five years after it took effect. The costs to the state after that would depend on the interest rates obtained when the bonds were sold and the length of time it took to repay the debt. If the \$3 billion in bonds authorized by this measure were repaid over a 30-year period at an average interest rate of 5.25 percent, the cost to the General Fund would be approximately \$6 billion to pay off both the principal (\$3 billion) and interest (\$3 billion). The average payment for principal and interest would be approximately \$200 million per year.

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST (CONT.)

Institute Operating Costs. As noted earlier, this measure would limit the amount of bond funding available that the institute could use for its administrative activities. The measure does not specify what would happen if the institute's administrative costs were greater than the amount of available bond funding. The amount of additional General Fund support that would be required, if any, is unknown, but would be unlikely to exceed a few million dollars annually.

Loan Repayment Revenues. If the institute awards loans in addition to grants for stem cell research and facilities, the institute would eventually receive revenues from the repayment of those loans. The measure specifies that any such loan repayment revenues would be used either to provide additional grants and loans or to pay ongoing costs for the administration of the bonds.

State Revenues From Research. As noted earlier, this measure would allow the state to receive payments from patents, royalties, and licenses resulting from the research funded by the institute. The amount of revenues the state would receive from those types of

arrangements is unknown but could be significant. The amount of revenue from this source would depend on the nature of the research funded by the institute and the exact terms of any agreements for sharing of revenues resulting from that research.

Effects on University System. To the extent that the UC system receives a share of the grants awarded by the institute, it could attract additional federal or private research funding for this same purpose. The UC system could also eventually receive significant revenues from patents, royalties, and licenses.

Other Potential Fiscal Effects. If the measure were to result in economic and other benefits that would not otherwise have occurred, it could produce unknown indirect state and local revenue gains and cost savings. Such effects could result, for example, if the added research activity and associated investments due to the measure generate net gains in jobs and taxable income, or if funded projects reduce the costs of health care to government employees and recipients of state services. The likelihood and magnitude of these and other potential indirect fiscal effects are unknown.

STEM CELL RESEARCH. FUNDING. BONDS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.

ARGUMENT in Favor of Proposition 71

PROPOSITION 71 IS ABOUT CURING DISEASES AND SAVING LIVES.

Stem cells are unique cells that generate healthy new cells, tissues, and organs. Medical researchers believe stem cell research could lead to treatments and cures for many diseases and injuries, including:

Cancer, heart disease, diabetes, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, HIV/AIDS, multiple sclerosis, lung diseases, and spinal injuries.

In fact, medical problems that could benefit from stem cell research affect 128 million Americans—including a child or adult in nearly half of all California families.

71 CLOSES THE RESEARCH GAP.

Unfortunately, political squabbling has severely limited funding for the most promising areas of stem cell research.

Meanwhile, millions of people are suffering and dying.

Prop. 71, the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Initiative, is an affordable solution that closes the research gap, so new treatments and cures can be found.

That's why a YES vote on 71 is endorsed by a broad coalition that includes OVER 20 NOBEL PRIZE WINNING SCIENTISTS, doctors, nurses, Democrats, Republicans, and dozens of organizations, including:

- Alzheimer's Association, California Council
- American Nurses Association of California
- California Medical Association (representing 35,000 doctors)
- Cancer Research and Prevention Foundation
- Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation
- Cystic Fibrosis Research, Inc.
- Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
- Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
- Prostate Cancer Foundation
- Sickle Cell Disease Foundation of California.

71 PROTECTS CALIFORNIA'S TAXPAYERS AND BUDGET.

Prop. 71 doesn't create or increase any taxes.

It authorizes tax-free state bonds that will provide a maximum of \$350 million per year over ten years to support stem cell research at California universities, medical schools, hospitals, and research facilities.

- These bonds are self-financing during the first five years, so there's no cost to the State's General Fund during this period of economic recovery.

- By making California a leader in stem cell research and giving our State an opportunity to share in royalties from the research, 71 will generate thousands of new jobs and millions in new state revenues.

That's why California's Chief Financial Officers, State Controller Steve Westly and State Treasurer Phil Angelides, endorse Prop. 71.

STRICT FINANCIAL AND ETHICAL CONTROLS.

Research grants will be allocated by an Independent Citizen's Oversight Committee, guided by medical experts, representatives of disease groups, and financial experts—and subject to independent audits, public hearings, and annual public reports.

Prop. 71 also prohibits any funding for cloning to create babies, reinforcing existing state law banning human reproductive cloning. It's totally focused on finding medical cures.

71 COULD REDUCE HEALTH CARE COSTS BY BILLIONS.

California has the nation's highest total health care spending costs—over \$110 billion annually. A huge share of those costs is caused by diseases that could be treated or cured with stem cell therapies.

- If Prop. 71 leads to cures that reduce our health care costs by only 1%, it will pay for itself—and it could cut health care costs by tens of billions of dollars in future decades.

For more information visit www.YESon71.com.

Vote YES on 71—IT COULD SAVE THE LIFE OF SOMEONE YOU LOVE.

ALAN D. CHERRINGTON, Ph.D., *President*

American Diabetes Association

CAROLYN ALDIGE, *President*

National Coalition for Cancer Research (NCCR)

JOAN SAMUELSON, *President*

Parkinson's Action Network

REBUTTAL to Argument in Favor of Proposition 71

Stem Cell Research? YES! Human Embryo Cloning? NO!
Here are just some of the many problems with Proposition 71:

- ** It specifically supports “embryo cloning” research—also called “somatic cell nuclear transfer”—which poses risks to women and unique ethical problems. To provide scientists with eggs for embryo cloning, at least initially, thousands of women may be subjected to the substantial risks of high dose hormones and egg extraction procedures *just* for the purposes of research. In addition, the perfection of embryo cloning technology—even if initially for medical therapies only—will increase the likelihood that human clones will be produced.

- ** Why privilege this research over other important research and medical needs, especially given the limits on how much California can invest? Why not issue bonds for programs that ALREADY have proven their cost effectiveness? Embryo stem cell research in nonhuman animals has produced only limited results. More compelling evidence of its efficacy should be required

before a large commitment of public resources to study it in humans.

- ** Proponents are manipulating those seeking cures, building false hopes with exaggerated claims, and creating a costly program without adequate oversight or accountability.

Stem cell research *should* be supported, but not this way. And don't be fooled by those who say that the opponents of Proposition 71 are all opposed to abortion and embryo stem cell research. Many of us are pro-choice, do not oppose all embryo stem cell research, and still oppose this initiative.

Vote “No” on Proposition 71.

JUDY NORSIGIAN, *Executive Director*

Our Bodies Ourselves

FRANCINE COEYTAUX, *Founder*

Pacific Institute for Women's Health

TINA STEVENS, Ph.D., *Author*

Bioethics in America: Origins and Cultural Politics

STEM CELL RESEARCH. FUNDING. BONDS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.

PROP

71

ARGUMENT Against Proposition 71

WE SUPPORT STEM CELL RESEARCH, NOT CORPORATE WELFARE

It's wrong to launch a costly new state bureaucracy when vital programs for health, education, and police and fire services are being cut. We cannot afford to pile another \$3 billion in bonded debt on top of a state budget teetering on the edge of financial ruin.

General Fund bond debt will grow from \$33 Billion on May 1, 2004, to a Legislative Accounting Office projection of \$50.75 Billion in debt by June 30, 2005—a staggering 54% increase in just 14 months!

WHO BENEFITS?

Backers will cynically use images of suffering children and people with disabilities in their commercials, but pharmaceutical company executives and venture capitalists contributed \$2.6 million to put this measure on the ballot. By getting taxpayers to fund their corporate research, they stand to make billions with little risk.

NO ACCOUNTABILITY

And who will oversee how this money is spent? According to the fine print, the proponents give themselves power to exempt their "Institute for Regenerative Medicine" from aspects of our California "open meeting" law (specifically passed to stop this kind of backroom deal-making).

Why do proponents want to keep what they are doing a secret? If we're being asked to pay for this research, then it should be freely available to all, not just to those who will be "awarded" special contracts by the "Institute." The initiative also grants the "Institute" power to rewrite California's medical informed consent safeguards.

Most importantly, the fine print specifically prohibits the Governor and Legislature from exercising oversight and control over how this money is spent—or misspent. Even if the state teeters on the brink of financial ruin, our elected

representatives will *still* have to borrow and spend this money, because the proponents are putting this money grab into our Constitution.

BAD MEDICINE

Opponents of this boondoggle include liberals, conservatives, Republicans, Democrats, Independents, medical professionals, and stem cell researchers. We all strongly support Stem Cell Research, but *oppose* this blatant taxpayer rip-off that lines the pockets of a few large corporations.

If there was any doubt about the true motives of the corporate promoters of this bond debt, one need only look at what it *doesn't* fund. The fine print does not initially fund adult and cord blood stem cell research. Adult and cord blood stem cell research has already produced more than 74 major medical breakthroughs, but this measure excludes support for these proven areas of research, without a two-thirds vote of the Institute's "working group."

Consider just one example: Cord blood stem cells are being used to treat sickle cell anemia with a staggering success rate of 90%. That's real progress, helping real people, but it may not receive *one penny* from this initiative.

Join with millions of your fellow citizens in demanding an end to "corporate welfare" and bonded debt. This is no time to spend billions we don't have on a self-serving sham.

Vote "NO" on Proposition 71. It's *not* what they say it is.
www.NoOn71.com

TOM McCLINTOCK, *California State Senator*
JOHN M.W. MOORLACH, *C.P.A.*

Orange County Treasurer
H. REX GREENE, M.D., *Cancer Center Director and Bioethics Consultant*

REBUTTAL to Argument Against Proposition 71

NOBEL PRIZE WINNING MEDICAL RESEARCHERS, DOCTORS, AND PATIENT GROUPS HAVE STUDIED THIS MEASURE AND URGE: YES on 71.

- Stem cell research is the most promising area of research aimed at finding breakthrough cures for currently incurable diseases and injuries affecting millions of people.
- 71 is a well-designed program to find those cures.
- It's vitally needed because stem cell research is being restricted by politics in Washington.

The claims by opponents are misleading political scare tactics.

71 SUPPORTS ALL TYPES OF STEM CELL RESEARCH—including adult and cord blood stem cell research.

71 FOCUSES ON RESEARCH BY NONPROFIT INSTITUTIONS—NOT CORPORATIONS.

- It's specifically designed to support the type of breakthrough research conducted by universities, medical schools, hospitals, and other nonprofit institutions.

71 REQUIRES PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY.

- 71 specifically says the institute overseeing the research MUST COMPLY WITH OPEN MEETING LAWS.
- It requires PUBLIC HEARINGS and INDEPENDENT AUDITS reviewed by the California State Controller

and an independent oversight committee.

71 PROTECTS CALIFORNIA'S BUDGET.

Prop. 71 is a good investment. Studies led by a Stanford University economist project that 71 will generate millions in new state revenues from royalties and new jobs, and that new medical treatments and cures can REDUCE CALIFORNIANS' HEALTH CARE COSTS BY BILLIONS.

71 is endorsed by over 20 Nobel Prize Winning scientists, medical groups representing over 35,000 California doctors and nonprofit disease groups representing millions of suffering patients.

VOTE YES on 71—TO FIND CURES THAT WILL SAVE LIVES.

LEON THAL, M.D., *Director*
Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, University of California at San Diego

PAUL BERG, Ph.D., *Nobel Laureate Professor of Cancer Research, Stanford University*

ROGER GUILLEMIN, M.D., Ph.D., *Nobel Laureate Distinguished Professor, Salk Institute for Biological Studies*

Proposition 71

This initiative measure is submitted to the people in accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of Article II of the California Constitution.

This initiative measure expressly amends the California Constitution by adding an article thereto; and amends a section of the Government Code, and adds sections to the Health and Safety Code; therefore, new provisions proposed to be added are printed in *italic type* to indicate that they are new.

PROPOSED LAW

CALIFORNIA STEM CELL RESEARCH AND CURES INITIATIVE

SECTION 1. Title

This measure shall be known as the “California Stem Cell Research and Cures Act.”

SEC. 2. Findings and Declarations

The people of California find and declare the following:

Millions of children and adults suffer from devastating diseases or injuries that are currently incurable, including cancer, diabetes, heart disease, Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, spinal cord injuries, blindness, Lou Gehrig’s disease, HIV/AIDS, mental health disorders, multiple sclerosis, Huntington’s disease, and more than 70 other diseases and injuries.

Recently medical science has discovered a new way to attack chronic diseases and injuries. The cure and treatment of these diseases can potentially be accomplished through the use of new regenerative medical therapies including a special type of human cells, called stem cells. These life-saving medical breakthroughs can only happen if adequate funding is made available to advance stem cell research, develop therapies, and conduct clinical trials.

About half of California’s families have a child or adult who has suffered or will suffer from a serious, often critical or terminal, medical condition that could potentially be treated or cured with stem cell therapies. In these cases of chronic illness or when patients face a medical crisis, the health care system may simply not be able to meet the needs of patients or control spiraling costs, unless therapy focus switches away from maintenance and toward prevention and cures.

Unfortunately, the federal government is not providing adequate funding necessary for the urgent research and facilities needed to develop stem cell therapies to treat and cure diseases and serious injuries. This critical funding gap currently prevents the rapid advancement of research that could benefit millions of Californians.

The California Stem Cell Research and Cures Act will close this funding gap by establishing an institute which will issue bonds to support stem cell research, emphasizing pluripotent stem cell and progenitor cell research and other vital medical technologies, for the development of life-saving regenerative medical treatments and cures.

SEC. 3. Purpose and Intent

It is the intent of the people of California in enacting this measure to:

Authorize an average of \$295 million per year in bonds over a 10-year period to fund stem cell research and dedicated facilities for scientists at California’s universities and other advanced medical research facilities throughout the state.

Maximize the use of research funds by giving priority to stem cell research that has the greatest potential for therapies and cures, specifically focused on pluripotent stem cell and progenitor cell research among other vital research opportunities that cannot, or are unlikely to, receive timely or sufficient federal funding, unencumbered by limitations that would impede the research. Research shall be subject to accepted patient disclosure and patient consent standards.

Assure that the research is conducted safely and ethically by including provisions to require compliance with standards based on national models that protect patient safety, patient rights, and patient privacy.

Prohibit the use of bond proceeds of this initiative for funding for human reproductive cloning.

Improve the California health care system and reduce the long-term health care cost burden on California through the development of therapies that treat diseases and injuries with the ultimate goal to cure them.

Require strict fiscal and public accountability through mandatory independent audits, open meetings, public hearings, and annual reports to the public. Create an Independent Citizen’s Oversight Committee composed of representatives of the University of California campuses with medical schools; other California universities and California medical research institutions; California disease advocacy groups; and California experts in the development of medical therapies.

Protect and benefit the California budget: by postponing general fund payments on the bonds for the first five years; by funding scientific and medical research that will significantly reduce state health care costs in the future; and by providing an opportunity for the state to benefit from royalties, patents, and licensing fees that result from the research.

Benefit the California economy by creating projects, jobs, and therapies that will generate millions of dollars in new tax revenues in our state.

Advance the biotech industry in California to world leadership, as an economic engine for California’s future.

SEC. 4. Article XXXV is added to the California Constitution, to read:

Article XXXV. Medical Research

SECTION 1. There is hereby established the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

SEC. 2. The institute shall have the following purposes:

(a) To make grants and loans for stem cell research, for research facilities, and for other vital research opportunities to realize therapies, protocols, and/or medical procedures that will result in, as speedily as possible, the cure for, and/or substantial mitigation of, major diseases, injuries, and orphan diseases.

(b) To support all stages of the process of developing cures, from laboratory research through successful clinical trials.

(c) To establish the appropriate regulatory standards and oversight bodies for research and facilities development.

SEC. 3. No funds authorized for, or made available to, the institute shall be used for research involving human reproductive cloning.

SEC. 4. Funds authorized for, or made available to, the institute shall be continuously appropriated without regard to fiscal year, be available and used only for the purposes provided in this article, and shall not be subject to appropriation or transfer by the Legislature or the Governor for any other purpose.

SEC. 5. There is hereby established a right to conduct stem cell research which includes research involving adult stem cells, cord blood stem cells, pluripotent stem cells, and/or progenitor cells. Pluripotent stem cells are cells that are capable of self-renewal, and have broad potential to differentiate into multiple adult cell types. Pluripotent stem cells may be derived from somatic cell nuclear transfer or from surplus products of in vitro fertilization treatments when such products are donated under appropriate informed consent procedures. Progenitor cells are multipotent or precursor cells that are partially differentiated, but retain the ability to divide and give rise to differentiated cells.

SEC. 6. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution or any law, the institute, which is established in state government, may utilize state issued tax-exempt and taxable bonds to fund its operations, medical and scientific research, including therapy development through clinical trials, and facilities.

SEC. 7. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, including Article VII, or any law, the institute and its employees are exempt from civil service.

SEC. 5. Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 125290.10) is added to Part 5 of Division 106 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

CHAPTER 3. CALIFORNIA STEM CELL RESEARCH AND CURES BOND ACT

Article 1. California Stem Cell Research and Cures Act

125290.10. General—Independent Citizen’s Oversight Committee (ICOC)

This chapter implements Article XXXV of the California Constitution, which established the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (institute).

125290.15. Creation of the ICOC

There is hereby created the Independent Citizen’s Oversight Committee, hereinafter, the ICOC, which shall govern the institute and is hereby vested with full power, authority, and jurisdiction over the institute.

125290.20. ICOC Membership; Appointments; Terms of Office

(a) ICOC Membership

The ICOC shall have 29 members, appointed as follows:

Proposition 71 (cont.)

(1) The Chancellors of the University of California at San Francisco, Davis, San Diego, Los Angeles, and Irvine, shall each appoint an executive officer from his or her campus.

(2) The Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Treasurer, and the Controller shall each appoint an executive officer from the following three categories:

(A) A California university, excluding the five campuses of the University of California described in paragraph (1), that has demonstrated success and leadership in stem cell research, and that has:

(i) A nationally ranked research hospital and medical school; this criteria will apply to only two of the four appointments.

(ii) A recent proven history of administering scientific and/or medical research grants and contracts in an average annual range exceeding one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000).

(iii) A ranking, within the past five years, in the top 10 United States universities with the highest number of life science patents or that has research or clinical faculty who are members of the National Academy of Sciences.

(B) A California nonprofit academic and research institution that is not a part of the University of California, that has demonstrated success and leadership in stem cell research, and that has:

(i) A nationally ranked research hospital or that has research or clinical faculty who are members of the National Academy of Sciences.

(ii) A proven history in the last five years of managing a research budget in the life sciences exceeding twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000).

(C) A California life science commercial entity that is not actively engaged in researching or developing therapies with pluripotent or progenitor stem cells, that has a background in implementing successful experimental medical therapies, and that has not been awarded, or applied for, funding by the institute at the time of appointment. A board member of that entity with a successful history of developing innovative medical therapies may be appointed in lieu of an executive officer.

(D) Only one member shall be appointed from a single university, institution, or entity. The executive officer of a California university, a nonprofit research institution or life science commercial entity who is appointed as a member, may from time to time delegate those duties to an executive officer of the entity or to the dean of the medical school, if applicable.

(3) The Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Treasurer, and the Controller shall appoint members from among California representatives of California regional, state, or national disease advocacy groups, as follows:

(A) The Governor shall appoint two members, one from each of the following disease advocacy groups: spinal cord injury and Alzheimer's disease.

(B) The Lieutenant Governor shall appoint two members, one from each of the following disease advocacy groups: type II diabetes and multiple sclerosis or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

(C) The Treasurer shall appoint two members, one from each of the following disease groups: type I diabetes and heart disease.

(D) The Controller shall appoint two members, one from each of the following disease groups: cancer and Parkinson's disease.

(4) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint a member from among California representatives of a California regional, state, or national mental health disease advocacy group.

(5) The President pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint a member from among California representatives of a California regional, state, or national HIV/AIDS disease advocacy group.

(6) A chairperson and vice chairperson who shall be elected by the ICOC members. Within 40 days of the effective date of this act, each constitutional officer shall nominate a candidate for chairperson and another candidate for vice chairperson. The chairperson and vice chairperson shall each be elected for a term of six years. The chairperson and vice chairperson of ICOC shall be full or part time employees of the institute and shall meet the following criteria:

(A) Mandatory Chairperson Criteria

(i) Documented history in successful stem cell research advocacy.

(ii) Experience with state and federal legislative processes that must include some experience with medical legislative approvals of standards and/or funding.

(iii) Qualified for appointment pursuant to paragraph (3), (4), or (5) of subdivision (a).

(iv) Cannot be concurrently employed by or on leave from any prospective grant or loan recipient institutions in California.

(B) Additional Criteria for Consideration:

(i) Experience with governmental agencies or institutions (either executive or board position).

(ii) Experience with the process of establishing government standards and procedures.

(iii) Legal experience with the legal review of proper governmental authority for the exercise of government agency or government institutional powers.

(iv) Direct knowledge and experience in bond financing.

The vice chairperson shall satisfy clauses (i), (iii), and (iv) of subparagraph (A). The vice chairperson shall be selected from among individuals who have attributes and experience complementary to those of the chairperson, preferably covering the criteria not represented by the chairperson's credentials and experience.

(b) Appointment of ICOC Members

(1) All appointments shall be made within 40 days of the effective date of this act. In the event that any of the appointments are not completed within the permitted timeframe, the ICOC shall proceed to operate with the appointments that are in place, provided that at least 60 percent of the appointments have been made.

(2) Forty-five days after the effective date of the measure adding this chapter, the State Controller and the Treasurer, or if only one is available within 45 days, the other shall convene a meeting of the appointed members of the ICOC to elect a chairperson and vice chairperson from among the individuals nominated by the constitutional officers pursuant to paragraph (6) of subdivision (a).

(c) ICOC Member Terms of Office

(1) The members appointed pursuant to paragraphs (1), (3), (4), and (5) of subdivision (a) shall serve eight-year terms, and all other members shall serve six-year terms. Members shall serve a maximum of two terms.

(2) If a vacancy occurs within a term, the appointing authority shall appoint a replacement member within 30 days to serve the remainder of the term.

(3) When a term expires, the appointing authority shall appoint a member within 30 days. ICOC members shall continue to serve until their replacements are appointed.

125290.25. Majority Vote of Quorum

Actions of the ICOC may be taken only by a majority vote of a quorum of the ICOC.

125290.30. Public and Financial Accountability Standards

(a) Annual Public Report

The institute shall issue an annual report to the public which sets forth its activities, grants awarded, grants in progress, research accomplishments, and future program directions. Each annual report shall include, but not be limited to, the following: the number and dollar amounts of research and facilities grants; the grantees for the prior year; the institute's administrative expenses; an assessment of the availability of funding for stem cell research from sources other than the institute; a summary of research findings, including promising new research areas; an assessment of the relationship between the institute's grants and the overall strategy of its research program; and a report of the institute's strategic research and financial plans.

(b) Independent Financial Audit for Review by State Controller

The institute shall annually commission an independent financial audit of its activities from a certified public accounting firm, which shall be provided to the State Controller, who shall review the audit and annually issue a public report of that review.

(c) Citizen's Financial Accountability Oversight Committee

There shall be a Citizen's Financial Accountability Oversight Committee chaired by the State Controller. This committee shall review the annual financial audit, the State Controller's report and evaluation of that audit, and the financial practices of the institute. The State Controller, the State Treasurer, the President pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the Chairperson of the ICOC shall each appoint a public member of the committee. Committee members

Proposition 71 (cont.)

shall have medical backgrounds and knowledge of relevant financial matters. The committee shall provide recommendations on the institute's financial practices and performance. The State Controller shall provide staff support. The committee shall hold a public meeting, with appropriate notice, and with a formal public comment period. The committee shall evaluate public comments and include appropriate summaries in its annual report. The ICOC shall provide funds for the per diem expenses of the committee members and for publication of the annual report.

(d) Public Meeting Laws

(1) The ICOC shall hold at least two public meetings per year, one of which will be designated as the institute's annual meeting. The ICOC may hold additional meetings as it determines are necessary or appropriate.

(2) The Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, shall apply to all meetings of the ICOC, except as otherwise provided in this section. The ICOC shall award all grants, loans, and contracts in public meetings and shall adopt all governance, scientific, medical, and regulatory standards in public meetings.

(3) The ICOC may conduct closed sessions as permitted by the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, under Section 11126 of the Government Code. In addition, the ICOC may conduct closed sessions when it meets to consider or discuss:

(A) Matters involving information relating to patients or medical subjects, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(B) Matters involving confidential intellectual property or work product, whether patentable or not, including, but not limited to, any formula, plan, pattern, process, tool, mechanism, compound, procedure, production data, or compilation of information, which is not patented, which is known only to certain individuals who are using it to fabricate, produce, or compound an article of trade or a service having commercial value and which gives its user an opportunity to obtain a business advantage over competitors who do not know it or use it.

(C) Matters involving prepublication, confidential scientific research or data.

(D) Matters concerning the appointment, employment, performance, compensation, or dismissal of institute officers and employees. Action on compensation of the institute's officers and employees shall only be taken in open session.

(4) The meeting required by paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 125290.20 shall be deemed to be a special meeting for the purposes of Section 11125.4 of the Government Code.

(e) Public Records

(1) The California Public Records Act, Article 1 (commencing with Section 6250) of Chapter 3.5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code, shall apply to all records of the institute, except as otherwise provided in this section.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require disclosure of any records that are any of the following:

(A) Personnel, medical, or similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(B) Records containing or reflecting confidential intellectual property or work product, whether patentable or not, including, but not limited to, any formula, plan, pattern, process, tool, mechanism, compound, procedure, production data, or compilation of information, which is not patented, which is known only to certain individuals who are using it to fabricate, produce, or compound an article of trade or a service having commercial value and which gives its user an opportunity to obtain a business advantage over competitors who do not know it or use it.

(C) Prepublication scientific working papers or research data.

(f) Competitive Bidding

(1) The institute shall, except as otherwise provided in this section, be governed by the competitive bidding requirements applicable to the University of California, as set forth in Article 1 (commencing with Section 10500) of Chapter 2.1 of Part 2 of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code.

(2) For all institute contracts, the ICOC shall follow the procedures required of the Regents by Article 1 (commencing with Section 10500) of Chapter 2.1 of Part 2 of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code with respect to contracts let by the University of California.

(3) The requirements of this section shall not be applicable to grants or loans approved by the ICOC.

(4) Except as provided in this section, the Public Contract Code shall not apply to contracts let by the institute.

(g) Conflicts of Interest

(1) The Political Reform Act, Title 9 (commencing with Section 81000) of the Government Code, shall apply to the institute and to the ICOC, except as provided in this section and in subdivision (e) of Section 125290.50.

(A) No member of the ICOC shall make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use his or her official position to influence a decision to approve or award a grant, loan, or contract to his or her employer, but a member may participate in a decision to approve or award a grant, loan, or contract to a nonprofit entity in the same field as his or her employer.

(B) A member of the ICOC may participate in a decision to approve or award a grant, loan, or contract to an entity for the purpose of research involving a disease from which a member or his or her immediate family suffers or in which the member has an interest as a representative of a disease advocacy organization.

(C) The adoption of standards is not a decision subject to this section.

(2) Service as a member of the ICOC by a member of the faculty or administration of any system of the University of California shall not, by itself, be deemed to be inconsistent, incompatible, in conflict with, or inimical to the duties of the ICOC member as a member of the faculty or administration of any system of the University of California and shall not result in the automatic vacation of either such office. Service as a member of the ICOC by a representative or employee of a disease advocacy organization, a nonprofit academic and research institution, or a life science commercial entity shall not be deemed to be inconsistent, incompatible, in conflict with, or inimical to the duties of the ICOC member as a representative or employee of that organization, institution, or entity.

(3) Section 1090 of the Government Code shall not apply to any grant, loan, or contract made by the ICOC except where both of the following conditions are met:

(A) The grant, loan, or contract directly relates to services to be provided by any member of the ICOC or the entity the member represents or financially benefits the member or the entity he or she represents.

(B) The member fails to recuse himself or herself from making, participating in making, or in any way attempting to use his or her official position to influence a decision on the grant loan or contract.

(h) Patent Royalties and License Revenues Paid to the State of California

The ICOC shall establish standards that require that all grants and loan awards be subject to intellectual property agreements that balance the opportunity of the State of California to benefit from the patents, royalties, and licenses that result from basic research, therapy development, and clinical trials with the need to assure that essential medical research is not unreasonably hindered by the intellectual property agreements.

(i) Preference for California Suppliers

The ICOC shall establish standards to ensure that grantees purchase goods and services from California suppliers to the extent reasonably possible, in a good faith effort to achieve a goal of more than 50 percent of such purchases from California suppliers.

125290.35. Medical and Scientific Accountability Standards

(a) Medical Standards

In order to avoid duplication or conflicts in technical standards for scientific and medical research, with alternative state programs, the institute will develop its own scientific and medical standards to carry out the specific controls and intent of the act, notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 125300, Sections 125320, 125118, 125118.5, 125119, 125119.3 and 125119.5, or any other current or future state laws or regulations dealing with the study and research of pluripotent stem cells and/or progenitor cells, or other vital research opportunities, except Section 125315. The ICOC, its working committees, and its grantees shall be governed solely by the provisions of this act in the establishment of standards, the award of grants, and the conduct of grants awarded pursuant to this act.

Proposition 71 (cont.)

(b) The ICOC shall establish standards as follows:

(1) *Informed Consent*

Standards for obtaining the informed consent of research donors, patients, or participants, which initially shall be generally based on the standards in place on January 1, 2003, for all research funded by the National Institutes of Health, with modifications to adapt to the mission and objectives of the institute.

(2) *Controls on Research Involving Humans*

Standards for the review of research involving human subjects which initially shall be generally based on the Institutional Review Board standards promulgated by the National Institutes of Health and in effect on January 1, 2003, with modifications to adapt to the mission and objectives of the institute.

(3) *Prohibition on Compensation*

Standards prohibiting compensation to research donors or participants, while permitting reimbursement of expenses.

(4) *Patient Privacy Laws*

Standards to assure compliance with state and federal patient privacy laws.

(5) *Limitations on Payments for Cells*

Standards limiting payments for the purchase of stem cells or stem cell lines to reasonable payment for the removal, processing, disposal, preservation, quality control, storage, transplantation, or implantation or legal transaction or other administrative costs associated with these medical procedures and specifically including any required payments for medical or scientific technologies, products, or processes for royalties, patent, or licensing fees or other costs for intellectual property.

(6) *Time Limits for Obtaining Cells*

Standards setting a limit on the time during which cells may be extracted from blastocysts, which shall initially be 8 to 12 days after cell division begins, not counting any time during which the blastocysts and/or cells have been stored frozen.

125290.40. *ICOC Functions*

The ICOC shall perform the following functions:

(a) *Oversee the operations of the institute.*

(b) *Develop annual and long-term strategic research and financial plans for the institute.*

(c) *Make final decisions on research standards and grant awards in California.*

(d) *Ensure the completion of an annual financial audit of the institute's operations.*

(e) *Issue public reports on the activities of the institute.*

(f) *Establish policies regarding intellectual property rights arising from research funded by the institute.*

(g) *Establish rules and guidelines for the operation of the ICOC and its working groups.*

(h) *Perform all other acts necessary or appropriate in the exercise of its power, authority, and jurisdiction over the institute.*

(i) *Select members of the working groups.*

(j) *Adopt, amend, and rescind rules and regulations to carry out the purposes and provisions of this chapter, and to govern the procedures of the ICOC. Except as provided in subdivision (k), these rules and regulations shall be adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (Government Code, Title 2, Division 3, Part 1, Chapter 4.5, Sections 11371 et seq.).*

(k) *Notwithstanding the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), and in order to facilitate the immediate commencement of research covered by this chapter, the ICOC may adopt interim regulations without compliance with the procedures set forth in the APA. The interim regulations shall remain in effect for 270 days unless earlier superseded by regulations adopted pursuant to the APA.*

(l) *Request the issuance of bonds from the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Finance Committee and loans from the Pooled Money Investment Board.*

(m) *May annually modify its funding and finance programs to optimize the institute's ability to achieve the objective that its activities be revenue-positive for the State of California during its first five years of operation without jeopardizing the progress of its core medical and scientific research program.*

(n) *Notwithstanding Section 11005 of the Government Code, accept additional revenue and real and personal property, including, but not limited to, gifts, royalties, interest, and appropriations that may be used to supplement annual research grant funding and the operations of the institute.*

125290.45. *ICOC Operations*

(a) *Legal Actions and Liability*

(1) *The institute may sue and be sued.*

(2) *Based upon ICOC standards, institute grantees shall indemnify or insure and hold the institute harmless against any and all losses, claims, damages, expenses, or liabilities, including attorneys' fees, arising from research conducted by the grantee pursuant to the grant, and/or, in the alternative, grantees shall name the institute as an additional insured and submit proof of such insurance.*

(3) *Given the scientific, medical, and technical nature of the issues facing the ICOC, and notwithstanding Section 11042 of the Government Code, the institute is authorized to retain outside counsel when the ICOC determines that the institute requires specialized services not provided by the Attorney General's office.*

(4) *The institute may enter into any contracts or obligations which are authorized or permitted by law.*

(b) *Personnel*

(1) *The ICOC shall from time to time determine the total number of authorized employees for the institute, up to a maximum of 50 employees, excluding members of the working groups, who shall not be considered institute employees. The ICOC shall select a chairperson, vice chairperson and president who shall exercise all of the powers delegated to them by the ICOC. The following functions apply to the chairperson, vice chairperson, and president:*

(A) *The chairperson's primary responsibilities are to manage the ICOC agenda and work flow including all evaluations and approvals of scientific and medical working group grants, loans, facilities, and standards evaluations, and to supervise all annual reports and public accountability requirements; to manage and optimize the institute's bond financing plans and funding cash flow plan; to interface with the California Legislature, the United States Congress, the California health care system, and the California public; to optimize all financial leverage opportunities for the institute; and to lead negotiations for intellectual property agreements, policies, and contract terms. The chairperson shall also serve as a member of the Scientific and Medical Accountability Standards Working Group and the Scientific and Medical Research Facilities Working Group and as an ex-officio member of the Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group. The vice chairperson's primary responsibilities are to support the chairperson in all duties and to carry out those duties in the chairperson's absence.*

(B) *The president's primary responsibilities are to serve as the chief executive of the institute; to recruit the highest scientific and medical talent in the United States to serve the institute on its working groups; to serve the institute on its working groups; to direct ICOC staff and participate in the process of supporting all working group requirements to develop recommendations on grants, loans, facilities, and standards as well as to direct and support the ICOC process of evaluating and acting on those recommendations, the implementation of all decisions on these and general matters of the ICOC; to hire, direct, and manage the staff of the institute; to develop the budgets and cost control programs of the institute; to manage compliance with all rules and regulations on the ICOC, including the performance of all grant recipients; and to manage and execute all intellectual property agreements and any other contracts pertaining to the institute or research it funds.*

(2) *Each member of the ICOC except, the chairperson, vice chairperson, and president, shall receive a per diem of one hundred dollars (\$100) per day (adjusted annually for cost of living) for each day actually spent in the discharge of the member's duties, plus reasonable and necessary travel and other expenses incurred in the performance of the member's duties.*

(3) *The ICOC shall establish daily consulting rates and expense reimbursement standards for the non-ICOC members of all of its working groups.*

(4) *Notwithstanding Section 19825 of the Government Code, the ICOC shall set compensation for the chairperson, vice chairperson, and president and other officers, and for the scientific, medical, technical, and administrative staff of the institute within the range of compensation levels for executive officers and scientific, medical, technical,*

Proposition 71 (cont.)

and administrative staff of medical schools within the University of California system and the nonprofit academic and research institutions described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 125290.20.

125290.50. Scientific and Medical Working Groups-General

(a) The institute shall have, and there is hereby established, three separate scientific and medical working groups as follows:

- (1) Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group.
 - (2) Scientific and Medical Accountability Standards Working Group.
 - (3) Scientific and Medical Research Facilities Working Group.
- (b) Working Group Members

Appointments of scientific and medical working group members shall be made by a majority vote of a quorum of the ICOC, within 30 days of the election and appointment of the initial ICOC members. The working group members' terms shall be six years except that, after the first six-year terms, the members' terms will be staggered so that one-third of the members shall be elected for a term that expires two years later, one-third of the members shall be elected for a term that expires four years later, and one-third of the members shall be elected for a term that expires six years later. Subsequent terms are for six years. Working group members may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.

(c) Working Group Meetings

Each scientific and medical working group shall hold at least four meetings per year; one of which shall be designated as its annual meeting.

(d) Working Group Recommendations to the ICOC

Recommendations of each of the working groups may be forwarded to the ICOC only by a vote of a majority of a quorum of the members of each working group. If 35 percent of the members of any working group join together in a minority position, a minority report may be submitted to the ICOC. The ICOC shall consider the recommendations of the working groups in making its decisions on applications for research and facility grants and loan awards and in adopting regulatory standards. Each working group shall recommend to ICOC rules, procedures, and practices for that working group.

(e) Conflict of Interest

(1) The ICOC shall adopt conflict of interest rules, based on standards applicable to members of scientific review committees of the National Institutes of Health, to govern the participation of non-ICOC working group members.

(2) The ICOC shall appoint an ethics officer from among the staff of the institute.

(3) Because the working groups are purely advisory and have no final decisionmaking authority, members of the working groups shall not be considered public officials, employees, or consultants for purposes of the Political Reform Act (Title 9 (commencing with Section 81000) of the Government Code), Sections 1090 and 19990 of the Government Code, and Sections 10516 and 10517 of the Public Contract Code.

(f) Working Group Records

All records of the working groups submitted as part of the working groups' recommendations to the ICOC for approval shall be subject to the Public Records Act. Except as provided in this subdivision, the working groups shall not be subject to the provisions of Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, or Article 1 (commencing with Section 6250) of Chapter 3.5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code.

125290.55. Scientific and Medical Accountability Standards Working Group

(a) Membership

The Scientific and Medical Accountability Standards Working Group shall have 19 members as follows:

(1) Five ICOC members from the 10 groups that focus on disease-specific areas described in paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 125290.20.

(2) Nine scientists and clinicians nationally recognized in the field of pluripotent and progenitor cell research.

(3) Four medical ethicists.

(4) The Chairperson of the ICOC.

(b) Functions

The Scientific and Medical Accountability Standards Working Group shall have the following functions:

(1) To recommend to the ICOC scientific, medical, and ethical standards.

(2) To recommend to the ICOC standards for all medical, socioeconomic, and financial aspects of clinical trials and therapy delivery to patients, including, among others, standards for safe and ethical procedures for obtaining materials and cells for research and clinical efforts for the appropriate treatment of human subjects in medical research consistent with paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 125290.35, and to ensure compliance with patient privacy laws.

(3) To recommend to the ICOC modification of the standards described in paragraphs (1) and (2) as needed.

(4) To make recommendations to the ICOC on the oversight of funded research to ensure compliance with the standards described in paragraphs (1) and (2).

(5) To advise the ICOC, the Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group, and the Scientific and Medical Research Facilities Working Group, on an ongoing basis, on relevant ethical and regulatory issues.

125290.60. Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group

(a) Membership

The Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group shall have 23 members as follows:

(1) Seven ICOC members from the 10 disease advocacy group members described in paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 125290.20.

(2) Fifteen scientists nationally recognized in the field of stem cell research.

(3) The Chairperson of the ICOC.

(b) Functions

The Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group shall perform the following functions:

(1) Recommend to the ICOC interim and final criteria, standards, and requirements for considering funding applications and for awarding research grants and loans.

(2) Recommend to the ICOC standards for the scientific and medical oversight of awards.

(3) Recommend to the ICOC any modifications of the criteria, standards, and requirements described in paragraphs (1) and (2) above as needed.

(4) Review grant and loan applications based on the criteria, requirements, and standards adopted by the ICOC and make recommendations to the ICOC for the award of research, therapy development, and clinical trial grants and loans.

(5) Conduct peer group progress oversight reviews of grantees to ensure compliance with the terms of the award, and report to the ICOC any recommendations for subsequent action.

(6) Recommend to the ICOC standards for the evaluation of grantees to ensure that they comply with all applicable requirements. Such standards shall mandate periodic reporting by grantees and shall authorize the Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group to audit a grantee and forward any recommendations for action to the ICOC.

(7) Recommend its first grant awards within 60 days of the issuance of the interim standards.

(c) Recommendations for Awards

Award recommendations shall be based upon a competitive evaluation as follows:

(1) Only the 15 scientist members of the Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group shall score grant and loan award applications for scientific merit. Such scoring shall be based on scientific merit in three separate classifications—research, therapy development, and clinical trials, on criteria including the following:

(A) A demonstrated record of achievement in the areas of pluripotent stem cell and progenitor cell biology and medicine, unless the research is determined to be a vital research opportunity.

(B) The quality of the research proposal, the potential for achieving significant research, or clinical results, the timetable for realizing such significant results, the importance of the research objectives, and the innovativeness of the proposed research.

Proposition 71 (cont.)

(C) In order to ensure that institute funding does not duplicate or supplant existing funding, a high priority shall be placed on funding pluripotent stem cell and progenitor cell research that cannot, or is unlikely to, receive timely or sufficient federal funding, unencumbered by limitations that would impede the research. In this regard, other research categories funded by the National Institutes of Health shall not be funded by the institute.

(D) Notwithstanding subparagraph (C), other scientific and medical research and technologies and/or any stem cell research proposal not actually funded by the institute under subparagraph (C) may be funded by the institute if at least two-thirds of a quorum of the members of the Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group recommend to the ICOC that such a research proposal is a vital research opportunity.

125290.65. Scientific and Medical Facilities Working Group

(a) Membership

The Scientific and Medical Research Facilities Working Group shall have 11 members as follows:

(1) Six members of the Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group.

(2) Four real estate specialists. To be eligible to serve on the Scientific and Medical Research Facilities Working Group, a real estate specialist shall be a resident of California, shall be prohibited from receiving compensation from any construction or development entity providing specialized services for medical research facilities, and shall not provide real estate facilities brokerage services for any applicant for, or any funding by the Scientific and Medical Research Facilities Working Group and shall not receive compensation from any recipient of institute funding grants.

(3) The Chairperson of the ICOC.

(b) Functions

The Scientific and Medical Research Facilities Working Group shall perform the following functions:

(1) Make recommendations to the ICOC on interim and final criteria, requirements, and standards for applications for, and the awarding of, grants and loans for buildings, building leases, and capital equipment; those standards and requirements shall include, among others:

(A) Facility milestones and timetables for achieving such milestones.

(B) Priority for applications that provide for facilities that will be available for research no more than two years after the grant award.

(C) The requirement that all funded facilities and equipment be located solely within California.

(D) The requirement that grantees comply with reimbursable building cost standards, competitive building leasing standards, capital equipment cost standards, and reimbursement standards and terms recommended by the Scientific and Medical Facilities Funding Working Group, and adopted by the ICOC.

(E) The requirement that grantees shall pay all workers employed on construction or modification of the facility funded by facilities grants or loans of the institute, the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for work of a similar character in the locality in which work on the facility is performed, and not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for holiday and overtime work fixed as provided in Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1720) of Part 7 of Division 2 of the Labor Code.

(F) The requirement that grantees be not-for-profit entities.

(G) The requirement that awards be made on a competitive basis, with the following minimum requirements:

(i) That the grantee secure matching funds from sources other than the institute equal to at least 20 percent of the award. Applications of equivalent merit, as determined by the Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group, considering research opportunities to be conducted in the proposed research facility, shall receive priority to the extent that they provide higher matching fund amounts. The Scientific and Medical Research Facilities Working Group may recommend waiving the matching fund requirement in extraordinary cases of high merit or urgency.

(ii) That capital equipment costs and capital equipment loans be allocated when equipment costs can be recovered in part by the grantee from other users of the equipment.

(2) Make recommendations to the ICOC on oversight procedures to ensure grantees' compliance with the terms of an award.

125290.70. Appropriation and Allocation of Funding

(a) Moneys in the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Fund shall be allocated as follows:

(1) (A) No less than 97 percent of the proceeds of the bonds authorized pursuant to Section 125291.30, after allocation of bond proceeds to purposes described in paragraphs (4) and (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 125291.20, shall be used for grants and grant oversight as provided in this chapter.

(B) Not less than 90 percent of the amount used for grants shall be used for research grants, with no more than the following amounts as stipulated below to be committed during the first 10 years of grant making by the institute, with each year's commitments to be advanced over a period of one to seven years, except that any such funds that are not committed may be carried over to one or more following years. The maximum amount of research funding to be allocated annually as follows: Year 1, 5.6 percent; Year 2, 9.4 percent; Year 3, 9.4 percent; Year 4, 11.3 percent; Year 5, 11.3 percent; Year 6, 11.3 percent; Year 7, 11.3 percent; Year 8, 11.3 percent; Year 9, 11.3 percent; and Year 10, 7.5 percent.

(C) Not more than 3 percent of the proceeds of bonds authorized by Section 125291.30 may be used by the institute for research and research facilities implementation costs, including the development, administration, and oversight of the grant making process and the operations of the working groups.

(2) Not more than 3 percent of the proceeds of the bonds authorized pursuant to Section 125291.30 shall be used for the costs of general administration of the institute.

(3) In any single year any new research funding to any single grantee for any program year is limited to no more than 2 percent of the total bond authorization under this chapter. This limitation shall be considered separately for each new proposal without aggregating any prior year approvals that may fund research activities. This requirement shall be determinative, unless 65 percent of a quorum of the ICOC approves a higher limit for that grantee.

(4) Recognizing the priority of immediately building facilities that ensure the independence of the scientific and medical research of the institute, up to 10 percent of the proceeds of the bonds authorized pursuant to Section 125291.30, net of costs described in paragraphs (2), (4), and (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 125291.20 shall be allocated for grants to build scientific and medical research facilities of nonprofit entities which are intended to be constructed in the first five years.

(5) The institute shall limit indirect costs to 25 percent of a research award, excluding amounts included in a facilities award, except that the indirect cost limitation may be increased by that amount by which the grantee provides matching funds in excess of 20 percent of the grant amount.

(b) To enable the institute to commence operating during the first six months following the adoption of the measure adding this chapter, there is hereby appropriated from the General Fund as a temporary start-up loan to the institute three million dollars (\$3,000,000) for initial administrative and implementation costs. All loans to the institute pursuant to this appropriation shall be repaid to the General Fund within 12 months of each loan draw from the proceeds of bonds sold pursuant to Section 125291.30.

(c) The institute's funding schedule is designed to create a positive tax revenue stream for the State of California during the institute's first five calendar years of operations, without drawing funds from the General Fund for principal and interest payments for those first five calendar years.

Article 2. California Stem Cell Research and Cures Bond Act of 2004

125291.10. This article shall be known, and may be cited, as the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Bond Act of 2004.

125291.15. As used in this article, the following terms have the following meaning:

(a) "Act" means the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Bond Act constituting Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 125290.10) of Part 5 of Division 106.

(b) "Board" or "institute" means the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine designated in accordance with subdivision (b) of Section 125291.40.

Proposition 71 (cont.)

(c) “Committee” means the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Finance Committee created pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 125291.40.

(d) “Fund” means the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Fund created pursuant to Section 125291.25.

(e) “Interim debt” means any interim loans pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 125290.70, and Sections 125291.60 and 125291.65, bond anticipation notes or commercial paper notes issued to make deposits into the fund and which will be paid from the proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to this article.

125291.20. (a) Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government Code or any other provision of law, moneys in the fund are appropriated without regard to fiscal years to the institute for the purpose of (1) making grants or loans to fund research and construct facilities for research, all as described in and pursuant to the act, (2) paying general administrative costs of the institute (not to exceed 3 percent of the net proceeds of each sale of bonds), (3) paying the annual administration costs of the interim debt or bonds after December 31 of the fifth full calendar year after this article takes effect, (4) paying the costs of issuing interim debt, paying the annual administration costs of the interim debt until and including December 31 of the fifth full calendar year after this article takes effect, and paying interest on interim debt, if such interim debt is incurred or issued on or prior to December 31 of the fifth full calendar year after this article takes effect, and (5) paying the costs of issuing bonds, paying the annual administration costs of the bonds until and including December 31 of the fifth full calendar year after this article takes effect, and paying interest on bonds that accrues on or prior to December 31 of the fifth full calendar year after this article takes effect (except that such limitation does not apply to premium and accrued interest as provided in Section 125291.70). In addition, moneys in the fund or other proceeds of the sale of bonds authorized by this article may be used to pay principal of or redemption premium on any interim debt issued prior to the issuance of bonds authorized by this article. Moneys deposited in the fund from the proceeds of interim debt may be used to pay general administrative costs of the institute without regard to the 3 percent limit set forth in (2) above, so long as such 3 percent limit is satisfied for each issue of bonds.

(b) Repayment of principal and interest on any loans made by the institute pursuant to this article shall be deposited in the fund and used to make additional grants and loans for the purposes of this act or for paying continuing costs of the annual administration of outstanding bonds.

125291.25. The proceeds of interim debt and bonds issued and sold pursuant to this article shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Fund, which is hereby created in the State Treasury, except to the extent that proceeds of the issuance of bonds are used directly to repay interim debt.

125291.30. Bonds in the total amount of three billion dollars (\$3,000,000,000), not including the amount of any refunding bonds issued in accordance with Section 125291.75, or as much thereof as is necessary, may be issued and sold to provide a fund to be used for carrying out the purposes expressed in this article and to be used and sold for carrying out the purposes of Section 125291.20 and to reimburse the General Obligation Bond Expense Revolving Fund pursuant to Section 16724.5 of the Government Code. The bonds, when sold, shall be and shall constitute a valid and binding obligation of the State of California, and the full faith and credit of the State of California is hereby pledged for the punctual payment of both the principal of, and interest on, the bonds as the principal and interest become due and payable.

125291.35. The bonds authorized by this article shall be prepared, executed, issued, sold, paid, and redeemed as provided in the State General Obligation Bond Law (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 16720) of Part 3 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code), and all of the provisions of that law except Section 16727 apply to the bonds and to this article and are hereby incorporated in this article as though set forth in full in this article.

125291.40. (a) Solely for the purpose of authorizing the issuance and sale, pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law, of the bonds and interim debt authorized by this article, the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Finance Committee is hereby created. For purposes of this article, the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Finance Committee is “the committee” as that term is used in the State General Obligation Bond Law. The committee consists of the Treasurer, the Controller, the Director of Finance, the Chairperson of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, and two other members of the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee (as created by the act)

chosen by the Chairperson of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, or their designated representatives. The Treasurer shall serve as chairperson of the committee. A majority of the committee may act for the committee.

(b) For purposes of the State General Obligation Bond Law, the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine is designated the “board.”

125291.45. (a) The committee shall determine whether or not it is necessary or desirable to issue bonds authorized pursuant to this article in order to carry out the actions specified in this article and, if so, the amount of bonds to be issued and sold. Successive issues of bonds may be authorized and sold to carry out those actions progressively, and it is not necessary that all of the bonds authorized to be issued be sold at any one time. The bonds may bear interest which is includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes if the committee determines that such treatment is necessary in order to provide funds for the purposes of the act.

(b) The total amount of the bonds authorized by Section 125291.30 which may be issued in any calendar year, commencing in 2005, shall not exceed three hundred fifty million dollars (\$350,000,000). If less than this amount of bonds is issued in any year, the remaining permitted amount may be carried over to one or more subsequent years.

(c) An interest-only floating rate bond structure will be implemented for interim debt and bonds until at least December 31 of the fifth full calendar year after this article takes effect, with all interest to be paid from proceeds from the sale of interim debt or bonds, to minimize debt service payable from the General Fund during the initial period of basic research and therapy development, if the committee determines, with the advice of the Treasurer, that this structure will result in the lowest achievable borrowing costs for the state during that five-year period considering the objective of avoiding any bond debt service payments, by the General Fund, during that period. Upon such initial determination, the committee may delegate, by resolution, to the Treasurer such authority in connection with issuance of bonds as it may determine, including, but not limited to, the authority to implement and continue this bond financing structure (including during any time following the initial five-year period) and to determine that an alternate financing plan would result in significant lower borrowing costs for the state consistent with the objectives related to the General Fund and to implement such alternate financing plan.

125291.50. There shall be collected each year and in the same manner and at the same time as other state revenue is collected, in addition to the ordinary revenues of the state, a sum in an amount required to pay the principal of, and interest on, the bonds maturing each year. It is the duty of all officers charged by law with any duty in regard to the collection of the revenue to do and perform each and every act that is necessary to collect that additional sum.

125291.55. Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government Code, there is hereby appropriated from the General Fund in the State Treasury, for the purposes of this article, an amount that will equal the total of the following:

(a) The sum annually necessary to pay the principal of, and interest on, bonds issued and sold pursuant to this article, as the principal and interest become due and payable.

(b) The sum necessary to carry out Section 125291.60 appropriated without regard to fiscal years.

125291.60. The Director of Finance may authorize the withdrawal from the General Fund of an amount or amounts, not to exceed the amount of the unsold bonds that have been authorized by the committee, to be sold for the purpose of carrying out this article. Any amount withdrawn shall be deposited in the fund. Any money made available under this section shall be returned to the General Fund, plus an amount equal to the interest that the money would have earned in the Pooled Money Investment Account, from money received from the sale of bonds for the purpose of carrying out this article.

125291.65. The institute may request the Pooled Money Investment Board to make a loan from the Pooled Money Investment Account in accordance with Section 16312 of the Government Code for the purposes of carrying out this article. The amount of the request shall not exceed the amount of the unsold bonds that the committee, by resolution, has authorized to be sold for the purpose of carrying out this article. The institute shall execute any documents required by the Pooled Money Investment Board to obtain and repay the loan. Any amounts loaned shall be deposited in the fund to be allocated by the institute in accordance with this article.

Proposition 71 (cont.)

125291.70. All money deposited in the fund that is derived from premium and accrued interest on bonds sold shall be reserved in the fund and shall be available for transfer to the General Fund as a credit to expenditures for bond interest.

125291.75. The bonds may be refunded in accordance with Article 6 (commencing with Section 16780) of Chapter 4 of Part 3 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code, which is a part of the State General Obligation Bond Law. Approval by the voters of the state for the issuance of the bonds described in this article includes the approval of the issuance of any bonds issued to refund any bonds originally issued under this article or any previously issued refunding bonds.

125291.80. Notwithstanding any provision of this article or the State General Obligation Bond Law, if the Treasurer sells bonds pursuant to this article that include a bond counsel opinion to the effect that the interest on the bonds is excluded from gross income for federal tax purposes, subject to designated conditions, the Treasurer may maintain separate accounts for the investment of bond proceeds and the investment earnings on those proceeds. The Treasurer may use or direct the use of those proceeds or earnings to pay any rebate, penalty, or other payment required under federal law or to take any other action with respect to the investment and use of bond proceeds required or desirable under federal law to maintain the tax-exempt status of those bonds and to obtain any other advantage under federal law on behalf of the funds of this state.

125291.85. Inasmuch as the proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this article are not "proceeds of taxes" as that term is used in Article XIII B of the California Constitution, the disbursement of these proceeds is not subject to the limitations imposed by that article.

Article 3. Definitions

125292.10. As used in this chapter and in Article XXXV of the California Constitution, the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) "Act" means the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Bond Act constituting Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 125290.10) of Part 5 of Division 106 of the Health and Safety Code.

(b) "Adult stem cell" means an undifferentiated cell found in a differentiated tissue in an adult organism that can renew itself and may, with certain limitations, differentiate to yield all the specialized cell types of the tissue from which it originated.

(c) "Capitalized interest" means interest funded by bond proceeds.

(d) "Committee" means the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Finance Committee created pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 125291.40.

(e) "Constitutional officers" means the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, and Controller of California.

(f) "Facilities" means buildings, building leases, or capital equipment.

(g) "Floating-rate bonds" means bonds which do not bear a fixed rate of interest until their final maturity date, including commercial paper notes.

(h) "Fund" means the California Stem Cell Research and Disease Cures Fund created pursuant to Section 125291.25.

(i) "Grant" means a grant, loan, or guarantee.

(j) "Grantee" means a recipient of a grant from the institute. All University of California grantee institutions shall be considered as separate and individual grantee institutions.

(k) "Human reproductive cloning" means the practice of creating or attempting to create a human being by transferring the nucleus from a human cell into an egg cell from which the nucleus has been removed for the purpose of implanting the resulting product in a uterus to initiate a pregnancy.

(l) "Indirect costs" mean the recipient's costs in the administration, accounting, general overhead, and general support costs for implementing a grant or loan of the institute. NIH definitions of indirect costs will be utilized as one of the bases by the Scientific and Medical Research Standards Working Group to create a guideline for recipients on this definition, with modifications to reflect guidance by the ICOC and this act.

(m) "Institute" means the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

(n) "Interim standards" means temporary standards that perform the same function as "emergency regulations" under the Administrative Procedure Act (Government Code, Title 2, Division 3, Part 1, Chapter 4.5, Sections 11371 et seq.) except that in order to provide greater opportunity for public comment on the permanent regulations, remain in force for 270 days rather than 180 days.

(o) "Life science commercial entity" means a firm or organization, headquartered in California, whose business model includes biomedical or biotechnology product development and commercialization.

(p) "Medical ethicist" means an individual with advanced training in ethics who holds a Ph.D., MA, or equivalent training and who spends or has spent substantial time (1) researching and writing on ethical issues related to medicine, and (2) administering ethical safeguards during the clinical trial process, particularly through service on institutional review boards.

(q) "Pluripotent cells" means cells that are capable of self-renewal, and have broad potential to differentiate into multiple adult cell types. Pluripotent stem cells may be derived from somatic cell nuclear transfer or from surplus products of in vitro fertilization treatments when such products are donated under appropriate informed consent procedures. These excess cells from in vitro fertilization treatments would otherwise be intended to be discarded if not utilized for medical research.

(r) "Progenitor cells" means multipotent or precursor cells that are partially differentiated but retain the ability to divide and give rise to differentiated cells.

(s) "Quorum" means at least 65 percent of the members who are eligible to vote.

(t) "Research donor" means a human who donates biological materials for research purposes after full disclosure and consent.

(u) "Research funding" includes interdisciplinary scientific and medical funding for basic research, therapy development, and the development of pharmacologies and treatments through clinical trials. When a facility's grant or loan has not been provided to house all elements of the research, therapy development, and/or clinical trials, research funding shall include an allowance for a market lease rate of reimbursement for the facility. In all cases, operating costs of the facility, including, but not limited to, library and communication services, utilities, maintenance, janitorial, and security, shall be included as direct research funding costs. Legal costs of the institute incurred in order to negotiate standards with federal and state governments and research institutions; to implement standards or regulations; to resolve disputes; and/or to carry out all other actions necessary to defend and/or advance the institute's mission shall be considered direct research funding costs.

(v) "Research participant" means a human enrolled with full disclosure and consent, and participating in clinical trials.

(w) "Revenue positive" means all state tax revenues generated directly and indirectly by the research and facilities of the institute are greater than the debt service on the state bonds actually paid by the General Fund in the same year.

(x) "Stem cells" mean nonspecialized cells that have the capacity to divide in culture and to differentiate into more mature cells with specialized functions.

(y) "Vital research opportunity" means scientific and medical research and technologies and/or any stem cell research not actually funded by the institute under subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 125290.60 which provides a substantially superior research opportunity vital to advance medical science as determined by at least a two-thirds vote of a quorum of the members of the Scientific and Medical Research Funding Working Group and recommended as such by that working group to the ICOC. Human reproductive cloning shall not be a vital research opportunity.

SEC. 6. Section 20069 of the Government Code is amended to read:

(a) "State service" means service rendered as an employee or officer (employed, appointed or elected) of the state, the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine and the officers and employees of its governing body, the university, a school employer, or a contracting agency, for compensation, and only while he or she is receiving compensation from that employer therefor, except as provided in Article 4 (commencing with Section 20990) of Chapter 11.

Proposition 71 (cont.)

(b) “State service,” solely for purposes of qualification for benefits and retirement allowances under this system, shall also include service rendered as an officer or employee of a county if the salary for the service constitutes compensation earnable by a member of this system under Section 20638.

SEC. 7. Severability

If any provision of this act, or part thereof, is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall not be affected, but shall remain in full force and effect, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable.

SEC. 8. Amendments

The statutory provisions of this measure, except the bond provisions, may be amended to enhance the ability of the institute to further the purposes of the grant and loan programs created by the measure, by a bill introduced and passed no earlier than the third full calendar year following adoption, by 70 percent of the membership of both houses of the Legislature and signed by the Governor, provided that at least 14 days prior to passage in each house, copies of the bill in final form shall be made available by the clerk of each house to the public and news media.

Proposition 72

This law proposed by Senate Bill 2 of the 2003–2004 Regular Session (Chapter 673, Statutes of 2003) is submitted to the people as a referendum in accordance with the provisions of Section 9 of Article II of the California Constitution.

This proposed law amends and adds sections to various codes; therefore, new provisions proposed to be added are printed in *italic type* to indicate that they are new.

PROPOSED LAW

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) The Legislature finds and declares that working Californians and their families should have health insurance coverage.

(b) The Legislature further finds and declares that most working Californians obtain their health insurance coverage through their employment.

(c) The Legislature finds and declares that in 2001, more than 6,000,000 Californians lacked health insurance coverage at some time and 3,600,000 Californians had no health insurance coverage at any time.

(d) The Legislature finds and declares that more than 80 percent of Californians without health insurance coverage are working people or their families. Most of these working Californians without health insurance coverage work for employers who do not offer health benefits.

(e) The Legislature finds and declares that employment-based health insurance coverage provides access for millions of Californians to the latest advances in medical science, including diagnostic procedures, surgical interventions, and pharmaceutical therapies.

(f) The Legislature finds and declares that people who are covered by health insurance have better health outcomes than those who lack coverage. Persons without health insurance are more likely to be in poor health, more likely to have missed needed medications and treatment, and more likely to have chronic conditions that are not properly managed.

(g) The Legislature finds and declares that persons without health insurance are at risk of financial ruin and that medical debt is the second most common cause of personal bankruptcy in the United States.

(h) The Legislature further finds and declares that the State of California provides health insurance to low- and moderate-income working parents and their children through the Medi-Cal and Healthy Families programs and pays the cost of coverage for those working people who are not provided health coverage through employment. The Legislature further finds and declares that the State of California and local governments fund county hospitals and clinics, community clinics, and other safety net providers that provide care to those working people whose employers fail to provide affordable health coverage to workers and their families as well as to other uninsured persons.

(i) The Legislature further finds and declares that controlling health care costs can be more readily achieved if a greater share of working people and their families have health benefits so that cost shifting is minimized.

(j) The Legislature finds and declares that the social and economic burden created by the lack of health coverage for some workers and their dependents creates a burden on other employers, the State of California, affected workers, and the families of affected workers who suffer ill health and risk financial ruin.

(k) It is therefore the intent of the Legislature to assure that working Californians and their families have health benefits and that employers pay a user fee to the State of California so that the state may serve as a purchasing agent to pool those fees to purchase coverage for all working Californians and their families that is not tied to employment with an individual employer. However, consistent with this act, if the employer voluntarily provides proof of health care coverage, that employer is to be exempted from payment of the fee.

(l) It is further the intent of the Legislature that workers who work on a seasonal basis, for multiple employers, or who work multiple jobs for the same employer should be afforded the opportunity to have health coverage in the same manner as those who work full-time for a single employer.

(m) The Legislature recognizes the vital role played by the health care safety net and the potential impact this act may have on the resources available to county hospital systems and clinics, including physicians or networks of physicians that refer patients to such hospitals and clinics, as well as community clinics and other safety net providers. It is the intent of the Legislature to preserve the viability of this important health care resource.

(n) Nothing in this act shall be construed to diminish or otherwise change existing protections in law for persons eligible for public programs including, but not limited to, Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, California Children’s Services, Genetically Handicapped Persons Program, county mental health programs, programs administered by the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, or programs administered by local education agencies. It is further the intent of the Legislature to preserve benefits available to the recipients of these programs, including dental, vision, and mental health benefits.

SEC. 2. Part 8.7 (commencing with Section 2120) is added to Division 2 of the Labor Code, to read:

PART 8.7. EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

CHAPTER 1. TITLE AND PURPOSE

2120. This part shall be known and may be cited as the Health Insurance Act of 2003.

2120.1. (a) Large employers, as defined in Section 2122.3, shall comply with the provisions of this part applicable to large employers commencing on January 1, 2006.

(b) Medium employers, as defined in Section 2122.4, shall comply with the provisions of this part applicable to medium employers commencing on January 1, 2007, except that those employers with at least 20 employees but no more than 49 employees are not required to comply with the provisions of this part unless a tax credit is enacted that is available to those employers with at least 20 employees but no more than 49 employees. The tax credit shall be 20 percent of net cost to the employer of the fee owed under Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 2140). “Net cost” means the dollar amount of the employer fee or the credit consistent with Section 2160.1 reduced by the employee share of that fee or credit and further reduced by the value of state and federal tax deductions.

2120.2. It is the purpose of this part to ensure that working Californians and their families are provided health care coverage.

2120.3. This part shall not be construed to diminish any protection already provided pursuant to collective bargaining agreements or employer-sponsored plans that are more favorable to the employees than the health care coverage required by this part.