

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-03

**A RESOLUTION OF THE INDEPENDENT CITIZENS’
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO WATCH AB 2381 (MULLIN)**

WHEREAS, the California Legislature is currently considering a bill that would have an effect on the operations and policies of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine;

WHEREAS, the Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee, the governing board of the CIRM, is committed to working with the Legislature to advance stem cell research, to ensure that California taxpayers benefit from their investment in this vital research, and to guarantee that therapies and cures developed through research funded by Proposition 71 are made available to all members of the California public;

WHEREAS, the Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee has already taken several actions to advance these common interests: (1) the Board accepted a petition to adopt a definition of the term “California supplier”; (2) CIRM has accepted public comments regarding a proposed definition from industry groups, CIRM grantees, and other interested members of the public; and (3) the Board has agreed to adopt a regulation defining “California supplier” to ensure that the California economy benefits as a result of spending by CIRM grantees;

WHEREAS, Section 8 of Proposition 71 permits the Legislature to amend the law after three years with a 70 percent vote of the membership of both houses, provided that the amendment enhances CIRM’s ability to further the purposes of the grant and loan programs created by Proposition 71;

WHEREAS, this provision provides an opportunity for the Legislature to adopt legislation to further the purposes of Proposition 71, while at the same time affording the Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee sufficient time to adopt policies and standards through a deliberate, thorough, and public process;

WHEREAS, AB 2381 would amend Proposition 71 to define the term “California supplier” as used in Proposition 71;

WHEREAS, the ICOC has agreed to adopt a regulation defining “California supplier” through a thorough public process to ensure that the California economy benefits from the spending of CIRM grantees while at the same time avoiding interfering with the research conducted by CIRM grantees;

WHEREAS, the author of AB 2381 has stated that he will withdraw the bill if the ICOC were to adopt a satisfactory definition of “California supplier” and the ICOC is committed to working with the author to do so;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee as follows:

1. The Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee is committed to working with the Legislature to advance stem cell research and to benefit the California economy.
2. The Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee believes that it can work with the author of AB 2381 to adopt a satisfactory definition of “California supplier” and the author will therefore withdraw AB 2381. The Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee will therefore continue to work with the author and will “watch” AB 2381.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Date Approved: _____

Signed: _____
Chair, Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee