

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-02

**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE
HONORING MELISSA KING FOR HER SERVICE TO
THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE,
STEM CELL RESEARCH AND CALIFORNIA PATIENTS**

WHEREAS, Melissa King, as Program Director for Operations and Communications for the California Research and Cures Coalition, was an instrumental member of the team that successfully advocated for the passage of Proposition 71 in November 2004;

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2004, more than seven million voters approved Proposition 71, which established the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (“CIRM”) and which gave hope to the millions of people who suffer from chronic disease and injury and to their families;

WHEREAS, following the voters’ approval of Proposition 71, Melissa King worked with Robert N. Klein to help organize a workshop, sponsored by the National Academy of Sciences, which brought together the nation’s leading scientists, ethicists, and governance experts at the University of California, Irvine, to discuss best practices for conflict of interest policies, grants program priorities, medical and ethical standards, intellectual property administration, and general agency procedures, all of which served as the foundation for the policies subsequently adopted by CIRM’s Governing Board;

WHEREAS, Robert N. Klein, upon being elected as the first Chairman of CIRM’s Governing Board, recruited Melissa King to help establish the agency and its initial policies and programs, including the adoption of medical and ethical standards and the appointment of outstanding scientists, ethicists, and facilities experts to serve on CIRM’s Working Groups;

WHEREAS, since January 2005, Melissa King has served as Executive Director of CIRM’s Governing Board, attending to tasks both large and small with great care and attention to ensure the smooth operation of the Board and its subcommittees;

WHEREAS, in her capacity as Executive Director of the Board, Melissa King has facilitated 69 Board meetings and more than 125 subcommittee meetings and has assisted the public in participating in all of these meetings;

WHEREAS, Melissa King has served as a tremendous resource to the Board, a valuable interface between Board members and CIRM staff, and an important link to the patient advocacy community and the California public;

WHEREAS, Melissa King single-handedly scheduled the depositions of the entire Board during a three-week period and organized CIRM’s response to numerous

discovery requests in an effort to ensure that the constitutional challenge to Proposition 71 would be expeditiously resolved, an effort that contributed significantly to the successful outcome of the litigation within two years;

WHEREAS, while the litigation was pending, Melissa King assisted Chairman Klein and other members of the Governing Board in securing interim funding for CIRM through a General Fund loan and the first ever sale of Bond Anticipation Notes in order to fund CIRM's first research awards to train a new generation of stem cell researchers;

WHEREAS, Melissa King organized and managed CIRM's first major press conferences featuring Governor Schwarzenegger in San Francisco and Speaker of the Assembly Fabian Nunez and Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa in Los Angeles;

WHEREAS, Melissa King has managed CIRM's scholarship programs for meetings of the International Society for Stem Cell Research and the World Stem Cell Summit, providing a vehicle for dozens of young investigators and patient advocates to participate in these important meetings;

WHEREAS, Melissa King has facilitated meetings between Chairman Klein and many of CIRM's key funding partners, acting as an ambassador for CIRM and for stem cell research generally;

WHEREAS, Melissa King has assisted Chairman Klein on countless projects and programs over the course of the last six and one half years, often working late into the night and on weekends, especially during CIRM's formative years;

WHEREAS, Melissa King played an invaluable role in the Board's Chair selection process and in Chairman Thomas's transition as the new Board Chair; and

WHEREAS, CIRM could not have accomplished its many successes over the last six and one half years without the hard work and dedication of Melissa King.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, on behalf of the people of the State of California, wishes to express its deepest gratitude to Melissa King for her hard work and her dedication to CIRM, to the advancement of stem cell research, and to the mission of finding therapies and cures for patients who suffer from chronic disease and injury.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Date Approved: _____

Signed: _____

Chairman, Governing Board
California Institute for Regenerative Medicine