

DRAFT

**Policy Regarding Extraordinary Petitions for ICOC Consideration
of Applications for Funding**

Introduction

CIRM is committed to the right of applicants under the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act to communicate with members of the ICOC either in person or in writing in support of their applications for research funding. Currently, however, no guidelines exist for the submission of such communications to the board. To ensure the fairness and integrity of the ICOC's review and to provide a structure to objectively evaluate any extraordinary submission of scientific information to the board, it is critical that the ICOC adopt a policy to govern such communications. CIRM's Executive Committee therefore proposes the following proposed interim regulation:

Proposed Interim Regulation

1. An applicant for CIRM funding who wishes to communicate with the ICOC regarding the applicant's application may submit a written communication concerning the application at least five days prior to the ICOC meeting at which the application will be considered for funding. Such a communication (referred to herein as an "extraordinary petition") should only be submitted under extraordinary circumstances and shall succinctly (in three pages or less) set forth the basis for the request for special consideration. The ICOC will not consider extraordinary petitions submitted after this date.
2. Extraordinary petitions shall be directed to the Chairman of the ICOC and to the President and the Chief Scientific Officer of CIRM. CIRM staff shall distribute the petitions to the board and post them on CIRM's website. CIRM staff may redact the petitions to protect personal, proprietary, or confidential information and other information that may be redacted under the Public Records Act or Health & Safety Code section 125290.30(e).
3. The President of CIRM, in consultation with the Chief Scientific Officer and scientific staff, shall review the petition and shall be prepared to make a recommendation to the ICOC.
4. If an ICOC member requests ICOC consideration of a petition, CIRM staff shall provide its analysis of such petition to the board during its consideration of the application.
5. The ICOC retains full discretion to consider or not consider the petitions and the CIRM staff analyses before making its final funding decisions.