



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

December 4, 2008

Dear Members of the Independent Citizen's Oversight Committee,

Voter approval of the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Initiative in November 2004 set California on a critically important path toward developing new technologies to address some of our nation's most serious chronic diseases and illnesses. The \$3 billion bond, which, with interest, will cost taxpayers \$6 billion, must be invested and managed with great care and expertise.

To ensure that California continues to lead the nation in this life-saving science, I will soon propose a nominee for your consideration as vice chairman. As you consider candidates for this open position, I urge you to select someone with meaningful expertise and experience in stem cell research, demonstrated passion for the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) mission, and intimate knowledge of CIRM's activities.

I am also writing to share my deep concern about reports that you plan to consider compensation for the chairman and vice chairman. CIRM has a responsibility to spend taxpayer money with great care, so I urge you to ensure that compensation for these positions is offered only if and to the extent absolutely necessary to implement its mission.

Thank you for your continued commitment and leadership in one of California's greatest endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arnold Schwarzenegger".

Arnold Schwarzenegger

/jh

