



MEMORANDUM

TO:	Members, Governing Board
FROM:	James C. Harrison and Alexandra Campe Degg
RE:	Workers' Compensation Coverage for CIRM Volunteers
DATE:	March 13, 2015

INTRODUCTION

Since it was established, CIRM has benefited from the services of individuals who have volunteered their time to the agency. These individuals have included lawyers, scientists, and student interns. Although CIRM has not compensated these individuals for their services, it has agreed to provide workers' compensation coverage in the event that a volunteer sustains an injury while working for CIRM.

Labor Code section 3363.5 authorizes public employers like CIRM to provide workers' compensation coverage to volunteers who perform services for the agency. However, the California Department of Human Resources recently advised CIRM that the Governing Board must adopt a resolution in order for the agency to extend such coverage to volunteers. In light of CIRM's past practices and the benefits that accrue to the agency from the services of volunteers, we request that the Board adopt a resolution authorizing the agency to extend workers' compensation coverage to volunteers.

RECOMMENDATION

We request that the Board authorize CIRM to extend workers' compensation coverage to individuals who volunteer to perform services on behalf of the agency.