



BETTY T. YEE
California State Controller

December 1, 2016

Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee
ATTN: Maria Bonneville, Executive Director
1999 Harrison Street, Suite 1650
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear ICOC Members:

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Senator Art Torres (Ret.) to serve another term as vice-chair of the Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee, the governing body of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM).

Senator Torres is a distinguished public servant who has spent his career working to increase access to health care and championing funding for basic scientific research, including early funding for AIDS research. While in the California Legislature, he served as chair of the Assembly Health Committee and the Senate Joint Committee on Science and Technology. After leaving public office, he continued his role as a patient advocate, serving on numerous nonprofit boards. Throughout his career, he has broadly supported stem cell research and CIRM's mission.

Finally, his service as a member of the governing board of Covered California connects Senator Torres to some of the most important health care access issues our state confronts. He is committed to ensuring the benefits of stem cell research reach across California's ethnically and economically diverse patient population.

Senator Torres's strategic relationships have been invaluable CIRM. I believe his accomplishments, extensive knowledge of both the public and private sectors, and commitment to the ICOC mission make him uniquely qualified for this position.

I cannot think of a person better suited for this position. Senator Torres deserves to be elected to another term as ICOC vice-chair.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Betty T. Yee".

BETTY T. YEE