

**CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE  
GOVERNING BOARD  
FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE**

**June 9, 2011**

**Proposal to Augment the Budget of the Office of the Chair to Fund, as Necessary,  
Contract for Federal Government Relations Support:**

On June 6, 2011, the Legislative Subcommittee met to consider federal legislation that could have a substantial impact on CIRM's mission, ranging from a bill that would fundamentally change U.S. patent law to a bill that would support regenerative medicine through funding for research and commercial development of regenerative medicine products and development of a regulatory environment that enables rapid approval of safe and effective products.

In addition, the *Sherley v. Sebelius* litigation, regardless of outcome, is likely to lead to additional efforts by opponents or proponents of human embryonic stem cell research to push legislation regarding federal funding for human embryonic stem cell research.

Since CIRM's contract with the Podesta Group expired in April 2010 after CIRM had used less than half of the \$240,000 that had been allocated, CIRM has relied on the Chair and Vice Chairs to monitor legislative and policy developments in Washington, D.C., and to communicate with members of the Congress and policymakers regarding CIRM's position on legislation and policy. To ensure that the Chair and Vice Chairs have the support necessary to keep abreast of new developments and to protect and advance CIRM's interests, it is critical that CIRM have the support of a government relations firm in Washington, D.C.

Chairman Klein and Vice Chair Torres therefore propose that the Finance Subcommittee recommend an augmentation of the budget for the Office of the Chair by \$180,000 to fund, as necessary, a one-year contract for federal government relations support. Upon approval of this item by the Board, CIRM would issue a Request for Proposals seeking submissions for federal government relations services.