

Honorable Members of the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee:

Thank you for the privilege of addressing you on TRAN 1 proposal #10958, which addresses a matter of grave concern to millions of women across America and around the world.

Judging by its scores, I am almost entirely certain the project will pass without objection, but still I could not rest unless I expressed support.

While Urinary Incontinence (UI) does affect men, including survivors of prostate cancer like myself, it is overwhelmingly a threat to women, particularly those who have born children.

UI may affect as many as 50% of all adult women. Indeed, it is so wide-spread a problem that more diapers are sold for adult use than for babies.

Urinary Incontinence is one of the top three causes of women being institutionalized. Not only is there the endless need for adult personal care, changings of clothing and bedding, and the associated embarrassment, social isolation and depression, but actual threat of death or injury as well. If an elderly woman rushes to the restroom, she may fall and break her pelvis, which can be fatal.

However, the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine may be able to offer an end to this suffering.

It is possible that the muscles of the urethral sphincter may be strengthened with both smooth-wall muscle, and skeletal muscle stem cells. One kind of muscle keeps the sphincter closed reliably, hours at a time; the other provides strength to clinch the bladder's opening tight, allowing time to make it to the restroom in time of emergency.

While of course I am no scientist, I have studied the proposal, and have known this highly-respected researcher for many years. The operation seems relatively simple and likely to advance to clinical trials, an injection of cells to restore youthful muscular control of the bladder.

Every research proposal is intended to solve a problem, to ease suffering.

But this grant may affect the lives of more women than anything else we do.

I congratulate the scientists involved, applaud the reviewers for their vision, and whole-heartedly endorse TRAN1 proposal # 10958.

Don C. Reed

<http://www.stemcellbattles.net> (sign up for my free newsletter!)

Don Reed is author of the new book, "CALIFORNIA CURES! How the California Stem Cell Program is Fighting Your Incurable Disease!" available now at <http://bit.ly/californiacures>. For a 20% discount, use code "WSPY2PP20"!

Reed is also Vice President of Public Policy for Americans for Cures Foundation; opinions voiced here as an individual may or may not reflect those of the Foundation.

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