

June 11, 2010



The Honorable William Monning
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 6005
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 1064 (Alquist) – NEUTRAL AS AMENDED

Dear Assembly Member Monning:

On behalf of the California Healthcare Institute (CHI), whose more than 250 members include our state's premier life sciences companies and academic research institutions, I am writing to remove our opposition to SB 1064, legislation that now clarifies several of the mandates from Prop. 71 (2004), authorizes changes to the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine's (CIRM) governance, and amends the peer review process for grants through CIRM.

CHI had several concerns with the previous iteration of this bill. Our members felt that by strictly codifying the intellectual property requirements at CIRM long before any CIRM discoveries are near commercialization that the bill would have restricted CIRM's latitude in promulgating appropriate regulations. We feel that the amendments that the author has taken as of May 20, 2010 adequately address our most pressing concerns voiced in opposition letter. As a result, we are removing our opposition at this time.

CHI and the biomedical community support the goals of CIRM to invest in promising research that can be commercialized creating therapies and medicines that will benefit patients around the globe. We strongly believe that industry participation is critical to this success, and sincerely hope that you include us in conversations regarding this matter going forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sandra Pizarro', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sandra Pizarro
Vice President – State Government Affairs

cc: The Honorable Elaine K. Alquist
Chair & Members, Assembly Health Committee
Assembly Republican Caucus