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Little Hoover Commission
Stuart Drown, Executive Director
925 L Street, Suite 805
Sacramento, CA 95814

November 20, 2008

**CALIFORNIA
HEPATITIS C TASK FORCE**

149 Wyndham Way, Suite 223
Petaluma, CA 94954-3875
(707) 773-4922

Fax (415) 276-5893

(EIN) TAX ID number: 92-0193770

www.californiahcvtaskforce.org

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Re: LHC 11/20/08 Public meeting on CIRM (sent by email)

Dear Mr. Drown,

I would like to convey our position regarding the Independent Citizens Oversight Committee (ICOC) commitment to stem cell research in California in light of today's meeting by the Little Hoover Commission.

We feel that the intent and language of proposition 71 clearly defined the purpose of the program and created a transparent system where the consumers of successful outcomes from the investments in research would have a voice thus keeping separate any political influence from having an impact on the decision making of the committee. We are satisfied that the priorities are clear and will be competently maintained. We do not wish to see this changed in any way and will support only those priorities indicated by the ICOC that do not alter the fair allocation of resources that the CIRM and ICOC currently have in place in order to further research and find cures for chronic diseases that plague Californians and the rest of the world.

The Little Hoover Commission will examine issues requested by Senators Kuehl and Runner regarding the accountability of the current structure which we feel has been thoroughly examined by the California voters and needs no further intervention. As a member of consumer and disease organizations that represent a constituency of over 16 million Californians, I respectfully ask the Commission to reject any recommendation that will suggest a change in the mandate and governance that already exists.

Sincerely,

William M. Remak, B.Sc. MT, BA. Public Health, SGNA
Chairman, California Hepatitis C Task Force, Inc.
Chairman, National Association of Hepatitis Task Forces
2X Liver Transplant Patient, Cancer survivor. Diabetic
Executive Committee, California Chronic Care Coalition
Board Member, FAIR Foundation
2X Liver Transplant Patient, Cancer survivor. Diabetic
Cell (707) 364-1802
wmremak@pacbell.net