

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Financial Impact Estimating Conference (FIEC) Principals

FROM: Susan Cutaia, President, Citizens for Science and Ethics

DATE: December 1, 2006

SUBJECT: Financial Impact Statement for Proposed Initiative 05-21

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We wish to offer additional information to the FIEC, regarding the Citizens for Science and Ethics' proposed ballot initiative (05-21) in anticipation of your next meeting, Monday, December 4.

### ***Re: "Revenue of the State"***

The prohibition would involve only those revenues which enter the Florida Treasury and for which an appropriation is required. Of revenue sources for experimentation (broadly considered "federal", "state" or "private"), the petition does not intend to preclude federal or private funds from being used by institutions in Florida, including those that receive state funds for other purposes.

For example, if this language becomes part of the Florida Constitution, a state university could receive federal NIH funds (from the *federal* treasury) for research that involves the destruction of a live human embryo.

### ***Distinction Between "Experiments" and "Therapies"***

As specified in the petition language, the funding prohibition would only apply to *experiments*. *Therapies* (or *treatments*) – if ever developed that involve the destruction of live human embryos – would not be prohibited.

### ***No Expected Financial Impact***

To our understanding, no Florida revenues are being spent on experiments that involve the destruction of a live human embryo, so we do not expect any savings to the state by prohibiting projects that are currently funded. Since there will be no savings and no new appropriations for this purpose, we do not expect that there will be a financial impact on state or local governments as a result of this proposed amendment's adoption.

We hope this is helpful to you. I look forward to the upcoming meeting.