

## **CITIZENS FOR SCIENCE AND ETHICS, INC.**

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### **MEMORANDUM**

TO: FIEC Principals

FROM: Susan Cutaia, President  
Citizens for Science & Ethics, Inc.

DATE: November 13, 2006

SUBJECT: Financial Impact Statement for Proposed  
Initiative 05-22

We wish to add an additional recommendation to the FIEC, regarding proposed ballot initiative 05-22.

We believe that mention should be made that there is no expectation that human embryonic experiments will yield applications in the broader population at any point in the life of the proposed initiative.

We believe that most Floridians are not familiar enough with the notion of “basic research” to understand that the only expected return is theoretical, that there is not an expectation by the scientific community that there will be applications for diseases over the life of the initiative. After monitoring similar initiatives in other states, we are concerned that this financial aspect – that there is no return to the people of the state or society in general – needs to be highlighted in the ballot impact statement.

We suggest the following possible phrases to accomplish this purpose (number of words for each suggestion in parentheses):

1. “Grants awarded through this program are not expected to yield direct clinical benefits that would have a financial impact over the life of the program” (26);
2. “There is no expected financial return on this investment in the form of actual medical breakthroughs during the life of the program” (23); or
3. “These grants fund “basic research” for which the goal is mainly theoretical and not actual applications that would have financial and other returns to the state” (27).

Thank you for your consideration.