NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER BILL LOCKYER

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State Treasurer Lockyer Calls for Quick Resolution of Stem Cell Legal Challenge Following State Court of Appeal's Complete Vindication of Proposition 71

SAN FRANCISCO – State Treasurer Bill Lockyer today issued the following statement in response to the First District Court of Appeal decision strongly affirming the constitutionality of Proposition 71, the stem cell research initiative approved by voters in 2004:

"It's been two-and-a-half years since voters resoundingly expressed their belief in the promise of stem cell therapies to prevent and cure diseases that ravage lives and families. After losing at the polls, the plaintiffs have tried to thwart the people's will in the courts, and failed there, too. If they insist on pursuing the case further, I hope the State Supreme Court moves quickly to dispose of the challenge once and for all. The sooner this legal battle is over, the sooner California can solidify its place in the vanguard of this crucial scientific and public health movement."

Lockyer, as Treasurer, chairs the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Finance Committee, established by Proposition 71 to manage the sale of \$3 billion in bonds to fund research projects.

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