SENATE BILL NO. 361–SENATOR SCHNEIDER

MARCH 19, 2007

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Authorizes the Nevada Institutional Review Board to engage in various activities related to nonembryonic stem cells. (BDR 54-710)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets [~~omitted material~~] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to nonembryonic stem cells; allowing the Nevada Institutional Review Board to evaluate, determine and act upon research and clinical applications for such cells; allowing the Board to obtain such cells; allowing the Board to form contracts with various laboratories to evaluate such cells before use in human subjects; allowing the Board to form an umbilical cord blood bank laboratory and collection program; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides for the Nevada Institutional Review Board to engage in various activities related to alternative and complementary integrative medicine. (NRS 630A.800-630A.910) This bill allows the Board to engage in various activities related to nonembryonic stem cells, including: (1) evaluating, determining and acting upon research and clinical applications for such cells; (2) obtaining such cells; (3) forming contracts with various laboratories to evaluate such cells before use in human subjects; and (4) forming an umbilical cord blood bank laboratory and collection program.

WHEREAS, There have been major developments in bioregenerative medical technologies; and

WHEREAS, The safe and efficacious availability of bioregenerative medical technologies for the residents of Nevada is desirable from both a patient care and economic perspective; and

WHEREAS, The safe and efficacious availability of bioregenerative medical technologies has the potential to create major economic development within this State; and

WHEREAS, The safe and efficacious availability of bioregenerative medical technologies has the potential to create major development of the health tourism industry in this State; and

WHEREAS, The safe and efficacious development of bioregenerative medical technologies requires respect for and preservation of human life; and

WHEREAS, Safety and efficacy extend to all forms of human life; and

WHEREAS, All authorized research, development and clinical applications for bioregenerative medical technologies must not include cells derived or evolved from a human fetus or any other constituents that compromise the life or health of the human fetus or place the life or health of the human fetus at risk; and

WHEREAS, An embryo is understood to be the beginning of life where a sperm and egg join together to form a zygote from the point of conception until the eighth week after conception; and

WHEREAS, A fetus is understood to be the unborn young of a viviparous mammal in the postembryonic period from the end of the eighth week after conception until birth; now, therefore,

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 630A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Nevada Institutional Review Board is authorized to:

1. Evaluate, determine and act upon research and clinical applications for nonembryonic stem cells;

2. Obtain nonembryonic stem cells from sources which are not harmful to the embryo or fetus, including, without limitation, placenta and umbilical cord blood, fat and amniotic fluid;

3. Form contracts that:

(a) Evaluate the safety and efficacy of nonembryonic stem cells before use in human subjects, with or without the manipulation of such cells; and

(b) Are with established medical laboratories or medical laboratories created for the purposes of this act; and

4. Form and establish an umbilical cord blood bank laboratory and collection program for the storage, research and collection of live birth cords in compliance with the generally accepted standards of blood banks.

Sec. 2. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.

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