

Date: March 25, 2008
Initiative No.: 08-0004

The Attorney General of California has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed measure:

BANS HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH. CRIMINAL PENALTIES.
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE. Prohibits stem cell or other research or procedures that would injure or destroy a human embryo, as defined. Prohibits buying, selling, receiving, or transferring a human embryo for certain prohibited purposes. Subjects violators to fifteen years in prison without possibility of parole, a fine of at least \$250,000 and permanent revocation of a medical license. Renders unenforceable contracts for payment of license fees and royalties derived from prohibited research. Requires taxpayers pay all legal costs proponent incurs fighting challenges to initiative. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Potential state savings up to the low hundreds of millions of dollars annually over the next few decades resulting from reduced principal and interest costs for bonds to fund embryonic research. Unknown potential loss of state and local revenue gains and cost savings due to reduced research funding for embryonic research. (Initiative 08-0004.)