

Advertisement

Advertisement

Measure to change U. of Neb. stem-cell rule fails

By MARGERY A. BECK
The Associated Press
Friday, November 20, 2009; 6:07 PM

LINCOLN, Neb. -- The University of Nebraska's governing board on Friday voted not to place tighter restrictions on embryonic stem cell research than those outlined under federal guidelines, which were expanded after President Barack Obama took office.

The Board of Regents, which is elected, voted 4-4 on a proposition to limit the stem cell research at the university to types allowed under President George W. Bush. The board needed a majority of its eight members to approve the measure, and many backers thought they had the necessary votes.

But board member Jim McClurg, who was endorsed for his post by an anti-abortion group that opposes embryonic stem cell research, Nebraska Right to Life, voted against the resolution.

McClurg said he would have voted differently three years ago.

"I was against embryonic stem cell research then - on the record," said McClurg.

"I've received so much information since then. It's been quite a three-year crash course in embryonic stem cell research," he said.

Last year, about \$88 million in federal funding went to embryonic stem cell research, according to the National Institutes of Health. The University of Nebraska saw none of that funding because of the tight federal guidelines, said Tom Rosenquist, vice chancellor of the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Now that the



NU Board of Regents Jim McClurg, left, Brad Bohn, center, and Chuck Hassebrook listen as Rick Kolkman of North Platte testifies in opposition to a resolution restricting embryonic stem cell research at the board's Nov. meeting in Lincoln, Neb., Friday, Nov. 20, 2009. The University of Nebraska's governing board on Friday voted down a proposal to restrict the school's rules governing embryonic stem-cell research beyond what the federal government allows. (AP Photo/Bill Wolf) (Bill Wolf - AP)

TOOLBOX

Resize Print
 E-mail

Ad TRY EMAIL MARKETING FREE FOR 60 DAYS!

WHO'S BLOGGING powered by

» [Links to this article](#)

Sponsored Links

Diet Pills Exposed
Most Diet Pills Are A Big "Scam" But We Finally Found One That Works.
www.HealthNews4.net

DO NOT Bleach Teeth
Learn 1 simple trick, discovered by a mom, that dentists DON'T want you to know.
www.consumertiptoday.com

[Buy a link here](#)

TOP JOBS

- [Business Jobs](#)
- [Computer Jobs](#)
- [Construction Jobs](#)
- [Education Jobs](#)
- [Engineering Jobs](#)
- [Healthcare Jobs](#)
- [Legal Jobs](#)
- [Management Jobs](#)
- [Media Jobs](#)
- [Non-Profit Jobs](#)
- [Sales Jobs](#)
- [Science Jobs](#)

Find Your Dream Job Now!

FIND JOBS

Jobs by [SimplyHired](#)

FEATURED ADVERTISER LINKS

Lawsuit: Hydroxycut Liver, Cochlear Implants, Zicam Recall, Yaz

Attorney: Mesothelioma, Lawyer, Cancer from Asbestos,

guidelines have been relaxed to allow funding for new stem cell lines, Rosenquist said, about six university researchers plan to apply for as much as \$7 million over the next several years.

Friday's vote came 20 months after a state law was enacted prohibiting the use of state resources for creating or destroying embryos for research. That law had been a compromise between abortion opponents and University of Nebraska researchers in which abortion foes agreed not to push for further legislation if certain conditions were met.

Advertisement

DOWNLOAD A FREE AUDIOBOOK TODAY!

Learn More

audible.com

Some supporters of the researchers have said that agreement extends to the regents. But abortion opponents have said the compromise was never meant to keep them from lobbying the regents for policy changes.

The University of Nebraska Medical Center has teams conducting research on approved stem cell lines, including studies of the liver, emphysema and stem cell mechanics.

Supporters of embryonic stem cell research hope it will lead to cures for

diseases such as diabetes, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's. Opponents believe embryos, which are destroyed during the research, are the starting point of human life and that destroying them is immoral.

Friday's vote followed nearly two hours of public comment from those both for and against the restrictions.

Among those who opposed restricting the research were University of Nebraska President J.B. Milliken and the chancellor of the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Dr. Harold Maurer. Both had said they feared such restrictions would cost the university in research funding and repel the country's top scientists.

University officials must now work to change the perception that the University of Nebraska's leaders are inclined to implement policies that could limit research in developing areas, Maurer said.

"I got two e-mails yesterdays from scientists we were trying to recruit that said they won't come to Nebraska until you settle your embryonic stem cell issue," the medical school chancellor said. "There is a perception there that has people asking, 'Should I invest my career there or not?' I mean, if you had a blossoming career, would you go to Nebraska, where you could be stymied?"

Lung Cancer

Debt destroying your day? New Debt Wise helps you decrease your debt!

Create Jobs. Help the Economy. Join the National Gateway.

Russia Now: In-Depth Coverage of Russia News, Business, and More.

Advertisement

Find out what you need to know about this stock market rally

If you have a \$500,000 portfolio, you should download the latest report by *Forbes* columnist Ken Fisher. In it he tells you where he thinks the stock market is headed and why. This must-read report includes his latest stock market prediction, plus research and analysis you can use in your portfolio right now.

[Click Here to Download](#)

FISHER INVESTMENTS™

Sponsored Links

Diet Pills Exposed

Most Diet Pills Are A Big "Scam" But We Finally Found One That Works. www.HealthNews4.net

DO NOT Bleach Teeth

Learn 1 simple trick, discovered by a mom, that dentists DON'T want you to know. www.consumertiptoday.com

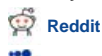
Acai Berry: Miracle Diet or Scam?

We Investigate Acai Berry. Is Acai a Miracle Diet or Internet Scam? ConsumerHealthNews

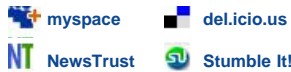
Buy a link here



More ways to share this Article...



submit



Understand more about:

University of Nebraska | Jim McClurg | Nebraska

University of Nebraska Medical | Harold Maurer

From Our Partners



What It Will Cost You To Deny Illegal Immigrants Health Insurance
Stupid Drug Story of the Week: NBC's Today Show Discovers Huffing
Can the Government Call God Jesus?

- What About Allah?
How Twilight Made Goth Fashion Mainstream
Is Disney's The Suite Life Making Your Child Into an Evil Lothario?
The Blind Side: Illegal Use of Sandra Bullock
Which U.S. Retailers Are Thriving in China?
Train, Plane, or Automobile? What's the Greenest Way to Travel for Thanksgiving?

People who read this also read...

- Delta says SkyTeam could invest more in JAL: report
Utah teen to challenge citation for McDonald's rap
St. John's holds off Brown 79-76
Vanderbilt beat UC Riverside



washingtonpost.com The
web
Digest: \$200,000 in grants linked to ACORN
Vote on stem-cell restrictions: The University of Nebraska's...
2 days ago | washingtonpost.com
U. of Nebraska Targets Assassin Game
But instead of averting a real threat, University of Nebraska...
March 7, 2008 | www.washingtonpost.com
More about: University of Nebraska | Nebraska | University of Nebraska Medical Center



© 2009 The Associated Press

NEWS | POLITICS | OPINIONS | BUSINESS | LOCAL | SPORTS | ARTS & LIVING | GOING OUT GUIDE

JOBBS | CARS | REAL ESTATE | RENTALS | CLASSIFIEDS

SEARCH: go washingtonpost.com Web: Results by Google Search Archives

washingtonpost.com : About Us | Work for Us | Advertisers | Site Map | Search Terms | Topics Index | Make us your homepage | Newsletters | Mobile | RSS | Widgets
The Washington Post: Subscribe | Home Delivery Service | Advertisers | PostPoints | e-Replica | Online Photo Store | The Washington Post Store | About The Post | National Weekly
The Washington Post Company: Information and Other Post Co. Websites

© Copyright 1996- 2009 The Washington Post Company | User Agreement and Privacy Policy | Rights and Permissions

Help | Contact Us