



**Board Members:**

David L. Bales, President  
Charles Schotz, Secretary  
Mary Beck, Treasurer  
Scott McCarter  
Lee Leatherwood  
Rick Hernandez

**Spokeswoman:**

Ricci Kilgore,  
U.S. Paralympian

**Advisory Council  
Members:**

Karen Frost  
Susan Longley  
Ron Weddington  
Mandy Balch  
Steven Burke  
Robert Jung  
Stacy L. Bales  
Bill Anderson  
Steve McMichael  
Sommer Novak  
Bill Wendlandt  
Gwen Cash  
James Robinson  
Jimbo Cotton  
Matthew March  
Mac Atgelt  
Lori Wilson  
Rachel Leigh  
Bret Baker  
Ray Canfield  
Kathy Roccato  
Thomas Jennings  
PJ Todd  
Justin Simmons  
Will Crouch  
Holly Gregory, RN  
Mario Salinas  
Megan Combs  
David Myers  
D. Scott Mattson

Jim Mattox,  
In Memorium

Intern:  
Sarah Martindale

[www.txstemcell.org](http://www.txstemcell.org)

3112 Windsor Rd.  
Suite 106  
Austin, TX 78703

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE :

CONTACT :

David L. Bales  
Texans for Stem Cell Research  
512 797 2703

[balesstemcell@gmail.com](mailto:balesstemcell@gmail.com)  
[www.txstemcell.org](http://www.txstemcell.org)

**Austin, Texas, April 17, 2009 -Texans for Stem Cell Research (TSCR)** encourages House members to reject efforts to attach any floor amendments which would ban state funding for embryonic stem cell research in the Appropriations Bill scheduled for debate later this week.

Senator Ogden placed a rider (17.13) banning such state funding in the Appropriations bill last month. Senator Ogden's ill advised effort to legislate through a "rider" in the bill will definitely result in unintended negative consequences. In fact, the brief 28 word rider purporting to regulate and restrict state funding for embryonic stem cell research in Texas could result in compromising **ALL** stem cell research efforts in the state.

Senator Ogden's knee jerk reaction to accommodate a very narrow constituency does not belong in the most important bill the Legislature must pass this session. Funding state government through the Appropriation Bill is the **ONLY** bill required by the state constitution to be enacted by the legislature each biennium, and should not serve as a vehicle for special interest legislation.

For this reason, **TSCR** strongly opposes this rider and any other floor amendments with similar language which may be presented during the floor debate this Friday. **TSCR** will work hard to inform all House members of the need to soundly reject any effort to include such counter-productive language in the House version of the Appropriations Bill.

**TSCR** is optimistic that a strong message from the House will convince members of the Joint Conference Committee on Appropriations to agree to remove this "Toxic" language from the Bill.

**TSCR** believes that important concerns about stem cell research in Texas should be addressed in open hearings by legislation and not by an underhanded attempt to slip a rider into the most important bill the legislature must pass this session.

The fact that Senator Ogden had already introduced a bill (SB 1695) with similar language to his rider proves that Senator Ogden clearly understands how the legislative process should work. **TSCR** encourages Sen. Ogden to lay his bill out in an open hearing with broad public participation and not subvert this process by placing a rider in the Senate version of the Appropriations Bill.

**Texans for Stem Cell Research** is a non-profit organization incorporated in Texas that promotes **HOPE** and **Quality of Life** by providing information and education to Texans about the benefits of stem cell research and treatment. **TSCR** is confident that the members of the 81<sup>st</sup> Legislature will address important issues relating to Stem Cell Research in a fair, open and comprehensive manner.



