



July 29, 2008

## **Stem cell research**

A group of House Republicans has introduced legislation aimed at boosting pluripotent stem cell research in the state through Michigan Business Tax, income and real and personal property tax credits, as well as creating a renaissance zone for a research facility.

Pluripotent stem cells are commonly referred to as adult skin cells.

"Adult skin cells function almost identically to human embryonic stem cells, a scientific breakthrough that will have a great impact in curing many of today's most agonizing diseases," said Rep. Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy).

In response, CureMichigan spokesperson Joe Schwarz said, "CureMichigan's position is to support all forms of stem cell research, including adult stem cell research. Nevertheless, it is essential that embryonic stem cell research move forward as well. This is especially important for juvenile and Type I diabetes, since there is no adult stem cell precursor for insulin-producing pancreatic beta cells."

The legislation is [HB 6355](#) , [HB 6356](#) , [HB 6357](#) and [HB 6358](#) .