



Gov. Readies Pen On Stem Cells

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Michigan Right to Life continues to push for follow up legislation to "clarify" the voter approved embryonic stem cell research law and for the first time the governor is pushing back.

"They need the Governor's signature. I'm not going to be signing any legislation that waters down our ability to advance in this important life science area," Gov. Jennifer **GRANHOLM** <http://www.mirsnews.com/lob_bio.php?cid=532> reveals for the first time.

Right to Life of Michigan (RTL) lobbyist Ed **RIVET**, upon hearing those words, noted, "She did not use the word veto. . . . I don't put words in the Governor's mouth."

MIRS asked Rivet if saying she "would not sign" the legislation was the same thing.

"Not necessarily," he said, noting that the governor could allow the bill to become law without her signature.

Rivet is meeting next week with Senate GOP leader to decide when to move the legislation that he argues is needed because there is always follow up bills to "broad constitutional amendments."

When reminded that Right to Life says it only wants to clarify the research law, Granholm shot back, "The people who are working on life sciences don't think that clarification helps and, in fact, it may hinder it."

Rivet said he was not discouraged saying he was "confident this could be worked out," thus avoiding a showdown with the Governor on this.

The RTL lobbyist explained earlier this week that he would not move the bills, authored by Sen. Tom **GEORGE** <http://www.mirsnews.com/leg_bio.php?lid=130> (R-Texas Twp.) out of the Senate until he had the votes lined up to pass it in the House, as well.