

to the committee,

State funded medical research plays an important role in ensuring the provision of a high standard of medical care. The bill introduces a few problems that could negate these advantages. There is no explanation of how **grants** are expected to generate revenue. negotiations for outright or partial purchase of intellectual property requiring funds for development instead of granting funds for research would generate revenue for the fund. By providing grants for research, controlled by an investment fund that will have conflicts of interest between the potential publication of findings adverse to investment value, the fund provides no discernable advantage to privately funded industry research.

There is a need for high quality impartial research and journals, free from investor pressures to counter the global problems of medical research. There is a need for stable guaranteed long-term employment opportunities for researchers with integrity capable of producing impartial research. Even researchers performing independent research are wary of challenging findings due to a lack of job security and tactics used to silence dissenting voices. Globally, universities and medical schools are famous for buckling to industry pressure, receiving large industry grants, in return for only publishing articles favorable to sponsors. The Vioxx records, especially the marketing department correspondence and FDA correspondence serve as an excellent documented case of industry wide problems and the need for independent research in order to provide a high standard of health care.

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