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To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in support of a proposal by SpineX for NIH SBIR funding of a clinical trial to treat symptoms of neurogenic bladder. The specific title of the proposal is "Transcutaneous Electrical Spinal Cord Neuromodulator to treat symptoms of Neurogenic Bladder".

By way of introduction, my name is Mary Kate Wold. I am the CEO of the Church Pension Group, an organization headquartered in New York City that manages a \$14 billion pension fund for clergy and provides multiple insurance products, including medical, life, and property and casualty insurance. I also have been a senior executive in the pharmaceutical industry and a partner in a global Wall Street law firm. I have served on the board of a publicly traded medical device company and now serve on the boards of the Jackson Laboratory, a leading genomics research organization, and Burke Neurological Institute, the neurological research affiliate of Weill Cornell School of Medicine.

I have become far too familiar with the issues of neurogenic bladder through the experience of my 28-year-old son, Peter Schreiner, who sustained a T-5 level spinal cord injury as a result of a car accident two years ago. Peter consistently has tested ASIA-A, indicating that he has had no voluntary movement or sensation below his chest level injury; and as we unfortunately have learned, a spinal cord injury not only robs an individual of movement and sensation but also causes a host of other serious issues including loss of temperature regulation, sexual function, and bowel and bladder control.

My son has grit and determination to recover from his daunting injury. As his partner in that endeavor, I have been relentless in educating myself on SCI research and meeting the top scientists in the area, including at Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Rutgers, UC-San Diego, Burke Neurological Institute, Kessler, Mount Sinai, the Mayo Clinic, and the Veterans Administration. As I have talked to people, it has become clear that the person most frequently mentioned by peers and most uniformly respected in the field is Dr. V. Reggie Edgerton, whose lab is at UCLA and who is the founder of SpineX.

I met Dr. Edgerton and his SpineX colleague, Dr. Parag Gad, last year. I have read their research on the use of the SpineX neuromodulation device to treat various symptoms of SCI, including bladder dysfunction. I also have discussed this research with numerous other noted scientists in the field, who express optimism and excitement about the results of Dr. Edgerton's research.

Several of those scientists have expressed interest in accessing the SpineX device for use in their own trials. I have readily concluded that there is no team to which I would rather entrust my son's prospects of recovery than the team at SpineX.

My son Peter has been exceedingly fortunate to be working with Dr. Edgerton and Dr. Gad for the past month. During that short month, using the neuromodulation device, he has shown more progress, including voluntary movement in his legs, than he has during the past two years of intense physical therapy. In a brief session testing his bladder with the device, he also was able for the first time to voluntarily release his bladder and void a portion of its contents.

The SpineX technology has the potential to be absolutely life changing not only for those suffering from spinal cord injury but also from stroke and other neurological conditions. I am excited for Peter and for the thousands of other people suffering from paralysis and autonomic disfunction who may for the first time truly have hope to recover as a result of the SpineX revolutionary technology. To my knowledge, there is no other therapy on the horizon that holds the same promise for near term success.

I would be happy to answer any questions you might have, and I can be reached at mkwold@yahoo.com. I am grateful for this opportunity enthusiastically to support the SpineX proposal.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Kate Wold". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Kate Wold