

## **2012 State Legislative Agenda**

### **Economic Development & Tax Reform**

Preserve existing tax exemptions and economic development incentives related to life sciences companies and organizations. Enact new tax incentives to spur company and capital formation, and job growth.

**In particular**, preserve sales tax exemptions on prescription drugs sold, or distributed without charge, to Licensed Healthcare Professionals and Authorized Medical Entities; and on medical products distributed without charge solely for the purposes of clinical trials.

Promote proposed tax incentives to support emerging technology companies in conjunction with the Governor's Competitiveness Commission and the Science & Technology Joint Strategic Initiative Study Commission.

Support sales tax exemptions for energy used in manufacturing and legislation enabling the Public Employees Pension Fund to make alternative investments in emerging technology start-ups.

### **FY 2012 State Budget**

#### ***University Research***

Increase FY 2012 funding levels for college and university life sciences-related research through allocations to the Georgia Research Alliance, Georgia Cancer Coalition and the University System of Georgia.

#### ***Department of Community Health***

Monitor Medicaid program and oppose reductions in state funding.

### **Patient Access**

As federal health care reform is implemented at the state level, ensure patients' access to innovative therapies in any modifications to commercial health insurance plans and the State's Medicaid and state employee health plans. Assist healthcare providers in their efforts to improve patient outcomes.

Support coalition of patient advocacy groups, led by Advocates for Responsible Care, in battling implementation of Specialty Tier higher drug insurance co-pays.

Work with coalition of AIDS patient advocates and Georgia Department of Public Health to reduce Georgia's waiting list (second largest in the nation) for its AIDS Drug Assistance Program.

Assist in expediting the licensure of out of state nurses.

### **Regenerative and Reproductive Medicine**

Georgia should support the federal regulations governing research and technology applications in regenerative and reproductive medicine.