

2014 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.

Fund **Invest Georgia** to encourage equity investment in Georgia bioscience and high technology companies.

FY 2014 STATE BUDGET

University Research

Increase FY 2014-15 funding levels for college and university life sciences-related research through allocations to the Georgia Research Alliance 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 **opposing implementation of Specialty Tier higher drug insurance co-pays.**

Work with coalition of AIDS patient advocates and Georgia Department of Public Health to **protect general fund money allocated to the Georgia AIDS Drug Assistance Program.**

Assist in **expediting the licensure of out of state nurses.**

FOLLOW-ON BIOLOGICS

Educate legislators on the important role biologic therapies play in treating disease, and explain the new FDA pathway for approving "follow-on biologics." **Support Biosimilar legislation that aligns with the BIO International biosimilar principles.**

REGENERATIVE AND REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE

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