



## 2024 FLORIDA GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS PRIORITIES

### Invest in Biomedical Research

*The goal is to seed research with the potential to lead to breakthrough treatments and expand the life sciences industry and Florida's economy. BioFlorida encourages the funding, in compliance with U.S. Health and Human Services guidelines, of research at Florida's Centers of Excellence, including state research universities and our independent research institutes through the following initiatives:*

- Support the funding of James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program, Bill Bankhead and David Coley Cancer Research Program, and Ed and Ethel Moore Alzheimer's Disease Research Program.
  - Support funding for cancer-related research, patient care, and medical education in Florida, including the Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program and the Cancer Innovation Fund.
  - Support new medical technology, drug and device discovery, and translational research in universities and independent research institutes.
- *Support funding in Governor DeSantis' proposed "Focus on Florida's Future" budget.*

### Prioritize the Life Sciences Industry as an Economic Driver that Merits Florida's Continued Focus

*BioFlorida supports the infusion of funds and resources and the creation of tax incentives to support existing companies and to attract more life sciences companies to the state. BioFlorida favors increased funding to continue these existing programs and new funding to support the expansion of Florida's vibrant life science industry.*

- Support state tax reductions including, but not limited to, the commercial lease sales tax, and the corporate income tax. Support tax credits, such as the research and development tax credit, that incentivize investment in Florida's life science industry.
  - Support state investment in innovative healthcare delivery systems.
  - Promote state biotechnology competitiveness by modernizing current regulations and eliminating outdated regulatory barriers to facilitate novel therapies, technologies, and approaches to delivering healthcare.
  - Adopt policies that promote timely and cost-effective availability of incubators, laboratories, and manufacturing space for the state's growing life sciences industry.
  - Support continued investment in the Institute for Commercialization of Florida Technology, the Florida Opportunity Fund, and the Florida Job Growth Fund to assist Florida life science companies in accessing capital resources to strengthen the early-stage finance ecosystem in this state.
- *Support the "Live Healthy Proposals - SB 7016, SB 7018, HB 1549, and HB 1501.*
- *Support Governor DeSantis' proposed "Focus on Florida's Future" budget.*

### Support Patient Access and Appropriate Use of Therapeutic Options

*Breakthrough treatments and cures (and access to them) promote discovery, support Florida-based life science research, and improve the lives of Floridians.*

- Promote policies that embrace evidence-based care models, including telehealth, remote patient monitoring, artificial intelligence, and other digital care services as tools that expand access to health services and reduce health disparities.



- Support measures that increase access to medical treatments and testing, such as biomarker testing and clinical trials, transparency in the payor's formulary process, and full use of co-payment assistance programs.
  - Oppose measures that establish policies on the therapeutic interchangeability of prescription medications and the dispensing of therapeutic alternative medications without prior authorization of a prescriber.
  - Oppose legislation and other efforts establishing drug price controls, overly burdensome contractual reporting requirements for manufacturers, or limit consumer discounting.
  - Support Department of Health policies and legislation to increase access to screenings and immunizations.
  - Protect consumers' data privacy rights, while recognizing the important role of deidentified data in life sciences research.
- ***Support Coverage of Biomarker Testing – HB 885 and SB 964***
  - ***Support Ban on Co-Pay Accumulators – HB 363 and SB 228***
  - ***Oppose International Reference Pricing Requirements - HB 1431 and SB 1750IRP***
  - ***Oppose Expansion of Restrictions on 340b Programs – SB 1608***

### **Support the Marketing of Florida's Life Science Business Brand**

*Increase collaboration and communication of advances made in the state and support continued economic development efforts centered on life sciences.*

- Support increased funding for programs within the Department of Commerce that promote Florida as a destination for life science organizations, including biopharmaceuticals, medical technology, digital health, manufacturing, research institutes, and health systems.
  - Encourage the state government to work with the medical innovation community to develop and implement strategies that promote Florida as a clinical trial destination.
  - Support programs that encourage growth in Florida's life science industry workforce.
- ***Support funding in Governor DeSantis' proposed "Focus on Florida's Future" budget.***
  - ***Support the "Live Healthy Proposals - SB 7016, SB 7018, HB 1549, and HB 1501.***

### **Support BioFlorida's Role in Positioning Florida as a Leader in the Life Science Industry**

*BioFlorida and its members work to identify strategies to advance all sectors of the life science industry ecosystem, such as biopharmaceuticals, medical technology, and digital health, and to provide solutions to identified gaps. As the industry's voice, BioFlorida is a resource for policymakers in aligning science, funding, and policies to position the state as a worldwide leader in the life sciences.*

- Increase BioFlorida members' roles as advisors to state policymakers as an entity that provides the latest information and resources about the life science industry.
- Promote BioFlorida members as innovators in the life science industry while safeguarding essential intellectual property protections.
- As our nation moves to a more self-sufficient and reliable supply chain, work to ensure Florida attracts and supports manufacturers and suppliers to provide immediate resources to meet our state's healthcare needs.