



**State of Connecticut**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
STATE CAPITOL  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

**Representative Lonnie Reed**  
Chair - Energy and Technology Committee  
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Good morning, Chairman LeBeau, Chairman Perone and distinguished members of the Commerce Committee.

My name is State Representative Lonnie Reed. I have the honor to serve as House Co-Chair of the Bi-Partisan Life Science Caucus and I am here to testify on behalf of SB 838, An Act Establishing a Fund for BioScience Innovation.

Othe last two years, when I've found myself at legislative conferences or other meetings in New York or San Diego or Austin, Texas, I am asked by legislators from other states about Connecticut's successful efforts to create excitement and opportunity around our bioscience sector.

Clearly, Connecticut made headlines and generated a bit of envy when Jackson Labs chose to create the Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine on UCONN's Farmington campus.

We've also convinced Alexion Pharmaceuticals to stay in Connecticut and keep growing in here as part of a new bioscience hub in downtown New Haven. And we've attracted other life sciences enterprises, such as Durata Therapeutics, a developer of antibiotics. Durata moved into Branford's former Cura Gen building and brought back to Connecticut some innovative Pfizer Executives whom we thought we'd lost to Cambridge. They were wooed back to Connecticut because great things are happening here.

The proposed Bioscience Innovation Fund will help Connecticut make more great things happen. It will attract more innovators and help fast track more discovery and it will encourage collaborations among our universities and research centers and private companies. In fact, that's one of the things that we hear most often from Life Sciences and complementary organizations. They tell us again and again, "We grow and thrive best in an

environment where there is a critical mass of excellence filled with people who have ideas and a passion to innovate, and to alleviate human suffering. “

That is the kind of environment we are enhancing here in Connecticut. We have so many bioscience assets to be proud of already. The Bioscience Innovation Fund will build on our enviable foundation and make us a national and international force to be reckoned with. Bioscience creates jobs, generates economic development, reduces medical costs and saves lives. I can't think of a more rewarding future. Thank you.