



***TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
SENATE BILL 838
AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FUND FOR BIOSCIENCE INNOVATION***

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **Senate Bill 838 – An Act Establishing a Fund for Bioscience Innovation.**

Covidien is a global healthcare products company that manufactures and distributes a diverse range of industry-leading product lines in three business segments: Medical Devices; Pharmaceuticals; and Medical Supplies. We are Connecticut's largest device manufacturer, employing approximately 3,500 people in Connecticut. Covidien's Surgical Solutions group's global headquarters is located in New Haven, Connecticut and R&D and Manufacturing facilities in North Haven, Connecticut. The products that are manufactured in North Haven are industry-leading technologies that include the latest advancements in medical devices.

Senate Bill 838 proposes to fund innovation that would support Connecticut's bioscience industry. Covidien supports initiatives that seek to further enhance and build on Connecticut's bioscience industry, creating sustainability and growth. Innovation is essential to the vitality of the bioscience industry and serves as a critical driver in the state's economy. This bill will create an incentive for public-private partnerships, for partnerships between corporations and non-profits/universities, and between large and small businesses. These strategic alliances will fuel the fire that is Connecticut's bioscience innovation hub. By enhancing this sector, other bioscience industries will be attracted to further develop the local industry. Covidien and its suppliers make up the core of an important medical device hub in the state of Connecticut which will undoubtedly be further enhanced by the entrance of Covidien's competitors, suppliers, vendors, workforce and others who decide to invest, invent and flourish in Connecticut. This bill makes it all that much more attractive for bioscience innovators to invest in the state. Covidien encourages the support and passage of SB 838.