



Georgia Biomedical Partnership Newsletter

HR 323 Calls for Statewide Bioeconomic Development Plan

Urge Georgia House Members to Support Effort

State Rep. Charlice Byrd (R-20th District) has introduced House Resolution 323. The resolution would form a Georgia Bioeconomic Development Commission charged with adopting a statewide plan to create jobs, strengthen education and improve the health and quality of life for all Georgians.

The resolution calls for the Commission, appointed by Gov. Sonny Perdue, Lt. Governor Casey Cagle and House Speaker Glenn Richardson, to hold a summit this spring to endorse a strategic plan for moving Georgia into a 21st century bioeconomy. The Summit would bring together government, university and industry leaders to consider adopting a comprehensive strategy that will benefit Georgians for decades by supporting commercialization of life sciences technologies across the state in healthcare, agriculture, bioenergy, biosecurity, forestry, and environmental management.

HR 323 has been assigned to the House Science and Technology Committee, which is chaired by Rep. Amos Amerson (R-9th District). The committee meets Thursday, March 1, from 8 am to 9 am, and will hear a presentation from Rep. Byrd. The committee is not expected to vote on the resolution Thursday. When a vote is scheduled, GBP members are encouraged to attend the Science and Technology Committee meeting to show support.

HR 323 states, in part:

“Bioscience technologies form the foundation of a new bioeconomy and are driving innovations in healthcare, agriculture, renewable energy sources, industrial production, environmental management and national security.”

“To become a leader in the bioeconomy, Georgia must unite government, industry and universities together in a comprehensive effort, thereby tying the state’s investments in university research, commercialization and economic development to measurable improvements in job growth, increases in tax revenues, and improvements in education, health and the overall quality of life for all Georgia’s citizens.”

Here is a link to HR 323 to read the full resolution: http://www.legis.state.ga.us/legis/2007_08/sum/hr323.htm

The Georgia Biomedical Partnership issued a press release February 22, 2007, in support of Rep. Byrd’s resolution. Here is a link to the GBP press release: https://www.gabio.org/pr_details.asp?id=84

The GBP is urging the Georgia General Assembly and Governor Sonny Perdue to support HR 323 and move forward in developing a master plan for life sciences economic development that will benefit the entire state.

GBP Welcomes 14 New Directors

Board Increases to 49 Members

The Georgia Biomedical Partnership welcomed 14 new members to its Board of Directors in 2007, increasing membership on the board to 49 representatives of industry, academia, government and other business organizations.

The new directors are:

- Gerald Belle, Chairman of Merial
- John Capers, Partner with King & Spalding
- Laurence Downey, M.D., President and CEO of Solvay Pharmaceuticals
- Fabrice Egros, Ph.D., President of UCB
- David Hartnett, Vice President of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce
- Michael Johns, M.D., Executive Vice President of Health Affairs for Emory University
- Walt Linscott, Partner-in-Charge with Thompson Hine
- Glenn Mitchell, Partner with Ernst & Young
- Dan Myers, President and CEO of Alimera Sciences
- Hari Nair, Ph.D., Managing Director and CEO of Life Therapeutics
- Bruce Robertson, Ph.D., Managing Director of H.I.G. Ventures
- Phillip Street, Partner with Kilpatrick Stockton
- Louis Sullivan, M.D., President Emeritus of Morehouse School of Medicine
- Michelle Williams, Partner with Alston & Bird

The officers of the Georgia Biomedical Partnership Board of Directors are:

- Russell Medford, M.D., Ph.D., Chair, AtheroGenics
- Eric Tomlinson, Dsc, Ph.D., Vice Chair, Altea Therapeutics
- Harold Shlevin, Ph.D., Vice Chair, Tikvah Therapeutics
- Charles Craig, President, Georgia Biomedical Partnership
- Wayne Reid, Treasurer, Frazier & Deeter
- Phil Moïse, Secretary & Corporate Counsel, Sutherland Asbill & Brennan
- David Dodd, Immediate Past Chair, Stem Cell Sciences
- William Johnston, Ph.D., CEO Roundtable Chair, BioBusiness Strategies

For a full list of GBP Board members, visit the GBP website at www.gabio.org.

2007 GBP Events Shaping Up Well

Upcoming Events, Spring 2007

After an encouraging start to 2007, the Georgia Biomedical Partnership (GBP) has scheduled a number of events for the coming months.

March 14, 7:30AM, **Research programs at the American Cancer Society: Successes, challenges and opportunities:** Margaret K. Offermann, M.D., Ph.D. became Deputy National Vice President for Research at the American Cancer Society (ACS) after leaving her position at Emory University School of Medicine where she was Professor of Hematology and Oncology, co-director of the MD, Ph.D Training Program and Associate Director of the Fellowship Training Program in Hematology and Oncology. Dr. Offermann will discuss the research programs of the ACS in a global context. She will highlight important successes as well as challenges that are faced in the trying to eliminate cancer death and suffering in the 21st century.

April 10, 6PM, **Globalization of Biotechnology-presented by the Emerging Leaders Network:** Globalization has lowered information barriers, facilitated the growth of technology and markets worldwide. It has also changed the way business minds view the world economy and plan for future growth. Please join us for an informative evening of networking and dialogue about trends in the globalization of biotechnology.

April 17-18, **BIO Legislative Day Fly-In 2007:** BIO invites you to attend the 2007 Legislative Fly-in, in Washington, DC. This is an opportunity for GBP members to meet with Georgia delegates to discuss issues of state and national significance to the biotechnology industry. Contact Charles Craig with questions, charles.craig@gabio.org or 404-920-2043.

April 18, 7:30AM, **Bacteriocins as Alternative Antimicrobials to Reduce Food-Borne Pathogens:** Bruce S. Seal, PhD, Research Leader for the Poultry Microbiological Safety Research Unit joining the food safety research programs for ARS, USDA, collaborated with a team of Russian Federation scientists at the State Research Center for Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology (SRCAMB) in Obolensk, Moscow Region to identify natural proteins or bacteriocins from “good” bacteria that inhibit growth of bacterial contaminants such as *Salmonella* spp., *Campylobacter* spp. and *Clostridium perfringens* in live chickens. There is also potential for use of bacteriocins to combat antibiotic resistant bacteria among both animals and humans.

This meeting will kick off the **ELN Challenge**. We encourage you to bring a young professional from your organization to learn about GBP and ELN, and network with other professionals from the life sciences industry in Georgia. Details will be available soon at https://www.gabio.org/cmt_eln_initiatives.asp.

May 23, 6PM, **E&Y Annual Industry Report:** As the biotechnology industry celebrates its 31th anniversary, Ernst & Young is releasing its 21th anniversary edition of *Beyond Borders: The Global Biotechnology Report 2007*. Ernst & Young has monitored the biotechnology industry for the past 21 years and reports on financial metrics, deal analysis, investment in the industry, and future global trends. The report will be presented by Michael T. Constantino, Partner, Ernst & Young LLP.

Sponsorships are available for the events listed. For more information about sponsorship opportunities contact Maria Thacker, maria.thacker@gabio.org or 404-920-2042.

To learn more about upcoming GBP and industry events please visit www.gabio.org.