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Sen. Adelman, Rep. Amerson Selected 2010 Legislators of the Year

ATLANTA, GA (December 21, 2009) -- Georgia Bio (GaBio) announces that Senator David Adelman (D-42nd District) of Atlanta and Representative Amos Amerson (R-9th District) of Dahlonega have been selected the 2010 Legislators of the Year for their support of the life sciences industry in Georgia.

Sen. Adelman, the Senate Minority Whip, and Rep. Amerson, Chair of the House Science and Technology Committee, have consistently supported the life sciences industry's research, development and legislative challenges. They will be honored at the GaBio Awards Dinner, January 21, 6 pm to 9 pm, at The Retreat at Dunwoody. [Click here to register.](#)

Sen. David Adelman was elected to the Georgia Senate in 2002. He began his legal career as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Georgia, and is currently a partner in the Atlanta law firm Sutherland, Asbill and Brennan LLP. In addition to his commercial practice, he represents indigent veterans on a pro bono basis before the U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals and serves as counsel to the Partnership Against Domestic Violence.

Sen. Adelman was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority. He is active at Emory University and serves on the boards of several charitable and public interest organizations. Sen. Adelman received his Doctor of Law degree from Emory University School of Law in 1989. He earned a Master of Public Administration degree from Georgia State University in 1995 and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Georgia in 1986.

In addition to serving as minority whip, he is chairman of the Urban Affairs Committee and also serves as a member on the Health and Human Services, Judiciary, and Rules committees and is the vice chairman of the Special Judiciary Committee. Sen. Adelman and his wife, Caroline, have three school-aged children, Oscar, Leah and Avery.

Last month, President Barack Obama nominated Sen. Adelman to be U.S. ambassador to Singapore.

Rep. Amerson, a retired U.S. Army Lt. Colonel, served 22 years in the military. His last tour of duty was with the Atomic Energy Commission under the Department of Energy in which he coordinated underground nuclear testing with the Department of Defense, Central Intelligence Agency and the Presidential Staff.

Rep. Amerson has a degree in Nuclear Engineering with a specialty in Radiation Safety, a Master's Degree in Quantitative Methods, and a Ph.D. in Economic Statistics. He has served in Vietnam as well as most of the Pacific Region from Korea to Thailand. He was assigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff Joint Strategic Targeting Planning Staff, which analyzed intelligence to determine Russia's capabilities and afterwards planned targets for strategic nuclear delivery. He was also Chief of the Strategic Analysis Section.

After retiring from the military, Rep. Amerson taught in the Business Department at North Georgia College and State University from 1982-1998. He was first elected to the Georgia House in 2000 and has served as Chair of the Science and Technology Committee since 2005. He is also a member of the Appropriations, Higher Education, and Energy, Utilities, and Telecommunications Committees.

Georgia Bio (www.gabio.org) is a private, non-profit association representing nearly 300 pharmaceutical, biotech and medical device companies, universities, research institutes, medical centers government groups and other business organizations involved in the development of products that improve the health and quality of life of people, animals and the environment.

Note to Editors: Credentialed members of the news media are invited to attend the Awards Dinner. Registration is complimentary. Please contact Maria Thacker (404-920-2042; maria.thacker@gabio.org).