



# IOWA BIOTECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION

## 2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Since 1994, the Iowa Biotechnology Association (IowaBio) has provided benefits and services to promote the interests and growth of the life sciences industries in Iowa. IowaBio is a non-profit, membership-based organization with a diversified membership including industry companies from all segments of biotechnology, universities & colleges, state & federal associations, as well as numerous service and support companies. The Association seeks to promote the success and growth of biotech-based businesses in Iowa. The following 2022 Legislative Priorities reflect these aims:

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

#### Business Climate, Tax Credits, and Tax Policy

IowaBio's diverse members, from startups to international industry leaders, positively impact the Iowa economy and provide high-paying jobs to Iowa workers. To continue to provide a business climate where companies in these fast-growing industries can thrive, IowaBio members overwhelmingly support tax policy that is competitive, growth-oriented, simple/straightforward, permanent, predictable, certain, fair, and responsible.

- IowaBio will take a lead role in coalition and advocacy efforts to protect bioscience-related tax credits and economic development programs such as the research activities tax credit, the renewable biochemical tax credit, biofuels tax credits, and angel investor tax credits.
- IowaBio also supports modernizing and expanding biofuels tax incentives. IowaBio will support recommendations of the 2021 Iowa Carbon Sequestration Taskforce that grow Iowa's bio-economy, provide value to agriculture and biofuels producers, and benefit Iowa's environment.

### PHARMACEUTICALS AND PUBLIC HEALTH:

#### Drug Pricing, Vaccines, and Patient Access

IowaBio member companies are some of the top innovators in the pharmaceutical development space. They provide invaluable impact on patient health and quality of life, as well as cutting-edge Research and Development and the ability to draw in public and private investment to Iowa.

- IowaBio will closely evaluate any proposed legislation dealing with drug pricing and transparency.
- IowaBio supports strong, science-based immunization policies and opposes additional exceptions to Iowa's law requiring childhood vaccinations, particularly in light of the recent decline in Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)-recommended vaccination rates.
- IowaBio will strive to be a resource to the legislature and other stakeholders on Industry's efforts to research and develop innovative vaccines and treatments for COVID-19 and other vaccine-preventable diseases, and to provide information on vaccine dissemination, effectiveness, and safety.
- IowaBio will support non-medical switching/continuity of care legislation, and support legislation expanding infant testing panels in accordance with federal recommendations.

### BIOSCIENCE TALENT PIPELINE:

#### STEM Education and Workforce Initiatives

Over the last 21 years, IowaBio has contributed nearly \$202,000 in student scholarships, teacher stipends, and program support to encourage STEM education. IowaBio's member companies care deeply about a robust talent pipeline and a strong workforce in STEM fields. IowaBio will also support legislation that funds workforce attraction and retention programs such as Future Ready Iowa, STEM initiatives and appropriations, and Empower Rural Iowa programs.

### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:

#### IP Rights and Innovation Protection

IowaBio will closely monitor any legislation affecting intellectual property rights to ensure its member companies can continue to develop and protect their most important asset—their innovations.

**Questions? Contact Executive Director, Jessica Hyland**  
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