

May 5, 2009

James C. Greenwood
President & CEO

The Honorable Daniel Inouye
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-131 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable David Obey
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-218 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-146 A The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Inouye, Chairman Obey, Ranking Member Cochran, Ranking Member Lewis:

On behalf of the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO), I urge inclusion of \$2 billion for Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Intervention in the FY 2009 Supplemental Appropriations bill. This funding should be used to develop vaccines and fund delivery devices, supplement existing anti-virals, and support existing efforts to monitor and respond to pandemic epidemic outbreaks. The Congress has historically provided strong leadership on this issue, and I want to reiterate BIO's commitment to working with the Congress and the Administration to maintain the strong and sustainable public-private partnership needed ensure a successful effort to combat pandemic influenza.

In addition to the threat we face from pandemic influenza, I also urge you to provide an additional \$542 million funding to address a shortfall in emergency funding for the advanced development of medical countermeasures against potential chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear terrorist attacks. Many promising technologies for national preparedness have languished between early-stage research and commercialization. Because the U.S. government is the only potential purchaser for these products, strong support and funding partnership is urgently needed to ensure that these technologies continue along their development processes and are not abandoned due to the lack of financial viability.

Thank you very much for your attention to this request. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Patrick Carroll at (202) 962-6696.

Regards,



James C. Greenwood
President and CEO