



Blood Cancer Foundation of Michigan  
Patient Advocate

# MI LIFE SCIENCE ECOSYSTEM 2023 POLICY PRIORITIES



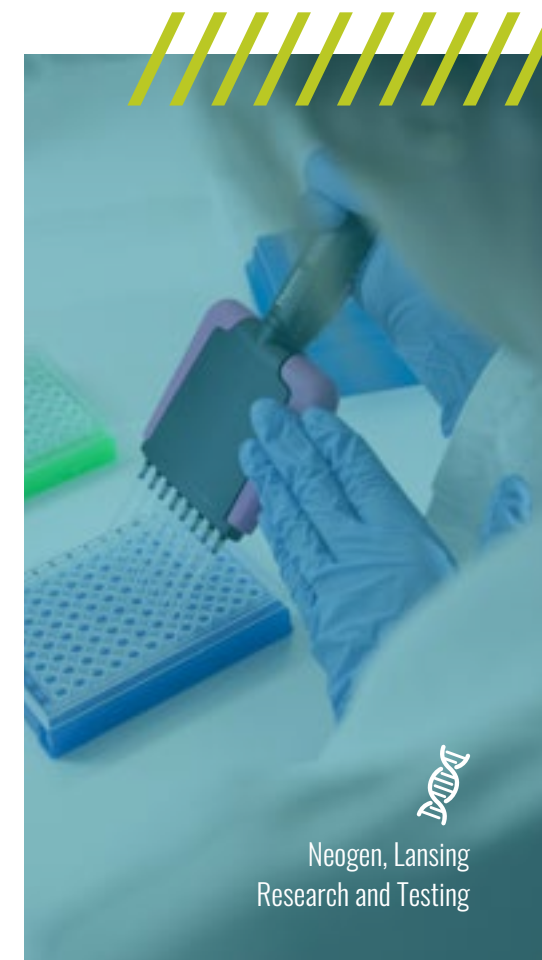
Keystone Solutions Group, Kalamazoo  
MedTech

## Michigan is a Leader in Bioscience Discovery and Innovation - the State Must Actively Work to Create a Sustainable Business Environment

Historical investments in the biosciences industry helped Michigan become a nationally recognized leader in bioscience discovery and innovation, especially with the implementation of the Michigan Life Sciences Corridor Initiative in 1999. Today, Michigan's bio-industry supports 44,340 jobs directly and ranks 15th largest nationally. However, Michigan's specific and visible commitment to the biosciences continues to be absent, with a number of helpful activities and programs eliminated or sunset, and is bereft of any specific resources to support the biosciences cluster unlike other regions.

**In short, Michigan is no longer viewed as a top-tier biosciences state in stature - even those with smaller life science footprints have overtaken Michigan**

Nevertheless, the state continues to have very strong and world-class biosciences research base but must actively work to create an environment that enables new enterprise formation and technology commercialization, while supporting existing company growth. A dedicated and comprehensive public-private vision for bio-industry growth is essential if the bio-industry is to be sustainable, much less flourish and be a leader again.



Neogen, Lansing  
Research and Testing



MichBio is a member-driven organization that exists to support Michigan's bioscience researchers, innovators and producers, as well as those in the broader ecosystem that serve and sustain them.

As our member companies seek to develop and manufacture sustainable, bio-based food, energy and industrial products, as well as life-changing medical devices, diagnostics, and medicines for global consumption, MichBio assists their technology innovation and commercialization efforts by advocating for smart and appropriate laws and regulations that guide research, development and go-to-market activities.

734.527.9150

info@michbio.org

3520 Green Court, Suite 175

Ann Arbor, MI 48105-1175

michbio.org

## IMPROVE MICHIGAN'S BUSINESS CLIMATE FOR BIOSCIENCES

Deploy a visibly branded, private sector-centric "Michigan Bioscience Growth Initiative" (akin to the Massachusetts' Life Sciences initiative and the Governor's Virginia Biotechnology Initiative) as an economic strategy.

Enact legislation and incentives for growth of specialty bioscience sectors (e.g., agri-biosciences, clinical trials) that can leverage Michigan's strengths in agriculture and clinical research or in R&D activities (e.g., FDA user fees, clinical trial expenses).

Institute legislation to spur re-shoring/"Michigan Made" of pharmaceutical and medical durable products manufacturing and supply chains.



Pass a "Co-Pay Accumulator" bill that would assist patients directly by requiring insurers to count all drug rebates received for a medication toward a family's maximum out-of-pocket costs or plan deductible.

Oppose artificial controls on the prescription drug marketplace including drug price review or transparency requirements that will burden manufacturers, stifle Michigan's bioscience innovation, and do nothing to lower patient out-of-pocket costs.

Develop a state income tax incentive for patients that credits their out-of-pocket expenses or those not otherwise covered by a trial sponsor thereby helping drive participation in clinical trials.

## PROMOTE A SUPPORTIVE TAX AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

Exempt medical devices and equipment from "Digital Electronic Equipment Repair" or "Right-To-Repair" legislation that would permit independent providers and owners of equipment to repair digital electronic equipment. Medical equipment is FDA regulated and registered and thus requires repair to be performed by certified manufacturer and 3rd party service representatives. Concerns include risks over intellectual property protection, product safety and cybersecurity, manufacturer and healthcare provider liability and reputational harm, and patient safety.

Improve the cost of doing business environment, including Michigan's corporate and property tax rates.

Develop standardization and independent validation for cannabis quality compliance and safety to ensure consumer welfare.

## INVEST IN BIOSCIENCE TALENT AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Fund the creation of specialized bioscience apprenticeship training programs in biomanufacturing, quality and compliance, and clinical trials, in partnership with Michigan's colleges and universities to meet current and future workforce needs in development and manufacturing.

Reestablish an incentive to retain and redeploy bioscience talent in Michigan and ensure experienced individuals can re-apply their knowledge to help grow existing and new Michigan life sciences companies.

Support the adoption of more rigorous K-12 science education curricula and standards, and improve opportunities for STEM engagement, especially from underrepresented groups.

## PATIENT ACCESS TO HEALTH INNOVATION

Support legislation that places patients first and ensures access to new treatments, keeps out-of-pocket costs low, recognizes adoption of new therapies for rare and chronic diseases, and relieves restrictions to healthcare coverage.

Establish a Michigan Rare Diseases Advisory Council, an advisory group that would provide a voice for rare disease patients and their caregivers, as well as a forum to address the many challenges they face in terms of access to care and coverage.

Develop legislation that would provide coverage of biomarker testing from hospital and medical service providers for purposes of diagnosis, treatment, appropriate management, or ongoing monitoring of an insured's disease or condition to guide treatment as long as the test provides clinical utility as demonstrated by medical and scientific evidence.

