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Governor Pataki Proposes Support for the Life Sciences Community on Long Island

January 8, 2004 (Stony Brook, NY) – The Long Island Life Sciences Initiative (LILSI), a regional trade association focused on addressing issues of strategic importance to the long-term growth and sustainability of the pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, nutraceutical and cosmeceutical sectors on Long Island (www.lils.org), was very pleased that Governor Pataki recently expressed continued support for the life sciences community during his State of the State Address, presented Wednesday, January 7, 2004.

During his speech, the Governor announced, "...let's help our promising biotech companies flourish. To grow, New York's biotech industry requires access to capital, and particularly in New York City, Westchester and Long Island, access to facilities.... ...This year, my budget will provide funds for critical wet-lab facilities, making institutions in places like Farmingdale, North Shore, Stony Brook... ..eligible to advance their biotechnology research, development and commercialization efforts...." (<http://www.state.ny.us/sos2004/sos2004text.html>)

This potential investment reflects a major component of a comprehensive legislative agenda presented to the Governor's Office by LILSI, with further representation by Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna LLP. From LILSI's perspective, such an investment is meant to help corporate and academic investigators in the life sciences community to pursue pre-clinical research, product development and testing of novel therapeutic and diagnostic technologies. These activities are considered to be critical components of the commercialization pathway by the life sciences community, and the proposed infrastructure to be created on Long Island will serve as a major resource for local companies, as well as academic faculty pursuing applied research with significant market potential. Moreover, the establishment of these unique facilities will enhance the competitiveness of Long Island and New York State in attracting life sciences companies to the region.

If you have any questions, or for more information, please feel free to contact Joseph Scaduto, Executive Director, Long Island Life Sciences Initiative, at 631-632-1080 or jscaduto@lils.org.

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