

NORTH CAROLINA JOINT LEGISLATIVE LIFE SCIENCES CAUCUS  
State of North Carolina's Life Sciences Industry  
February 27, 2025, 7:30 AM **(NEW DATE)**  
NCGA Member Cafeteria

Dear Colleague,

Co-Chairs Senator Paul Newton, Representative Donna White and Representative Robert Reives invite you to join the **North Carolina Life Sciences Caucus** for a **breakfast meeting rescheduled to Thursday morning, February 27, at 7:30 a.m. in the NCGA Member Cafeteria.**

The co-chairs will kick off the meeting with remarks about their work with the caucus over the last several years. Membership in the caucus is open to all, so come and learn why you may want to get involved. Forms will be available if you'd like to join. Those who have joined in the past are considered current members.

The life sciences industry is growing rapidly in North Carolina with employment in the sector growing 23% since 2019 with salaries averaging \$121,000, according to a recent report. North Carolina is one of only three states seeing growth in this sector of over 20%, the others being Massachusetts and Texas. The growth and expansion has come from major manufacturers, as well as home-grown companies reaching commercialization. North Carolina is home to a diverse set of companies with human, animal and agricultural sectors all growing.

At this meeting, the NC Biotechnology Center will provide a status report on the state's life sciences industry and where we stand with respect to the country — specifically looking at economic growth in the last few years — and activities at the center that support growth from in novation to manufacturing.

From there, we will turn the focus to the Office of Science Technology and Innovation in the Department of Commerce and their One NC Small Business Fund, which provides matching funds to North Carolina's entrepreneurial companies that are awarded federal SBIR/STTR grants. We will get a look at the critical economic impact of these state funds on high tech companies creating jobs and contributing to the state.

Please join us for this informative look at the life sciences industry in North Carolina as we head into 2025.

#### Presenters

- Sen. Paul Newton
- Rep. Donna White
- Rep. Robert Reives
  
- Bill Bullock, Senior VP, Economic and Statewide Development, NC Biotechnology Center
- Mary Beth Thomas, Senior VP, Science and Business Development, NC Biotechnology Center
- John Hardin, Executive Director, Office of Science, Technology & Innovation, NC Department of Commerce

#### Meeting Details

**Date:** Thursday, **February 27 (new date)**

**Time:** 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

**Place:** NCGA Member Cafeteria

**Enjoy a breakfast buffet**

**Please RSVP** with your plan to attend the caucus meeting by responding to this message or sending a separate email to Laura Gunter, President, NCLifeSci, at [LauraGunter@NCLifeSci.org](mailto:LauraGunter@NCLifeSci.org) or Joe Lanier, NCLifeSci lobbyist, at

[joe@milestonestrategiesnc.com](mailto:joe@milestonestrategiesnc.com). Please RSVP by COB, Tuesday, February 25, so that we can properly communicate with the cafeteria staff.

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