

NORTH CAROLINA JOINT LEGISLATIVE LIFE SCIENCES CAUCUS
North Carolina's Opportunity in the BioEconomy
May 21, 2025, 7:30 a.m.
NCGA Member Cafeteria

Dear Colleague,

Co-chairs Sen. Jay Chaudhuri, Rep. Donna White and Rep. Robert Reives invite you to join the **North Carolina Life Sciences Caucus** for a **breakfast meeting on Wednesday morning, May 21, at 7:30 a.m. in the NCGA Member Cafeteria.**

As we have noted many times, the NC life sciences industry is one of North Carolina's crown jewels, particularly in the biopharma manufacturing realm, but followed closely by activity in early-stage biopharma, medical devices, agriculture, etc. We are also fortunate to have Novonesis, the world's largest industrial biotechnology company, in Franklinton where they make enzymes that are part of everyday products like yogurt and other foods, detergent, ethanol, etc.

North Carolina and the nation are at a major inflection point in industrial and agricultural biotechnology just as we were in the early 2000s with biomanufacturing. Back then, North Carolina stepped up to the plate. Funding from the Golden Leaf Fund created BTEC, BRITE and NCBioNetwork to help with training and talent for increasing opportunities in biomanufacturing. This investment has led to the announcement of more than \$27B and 22K new jobs at life sciences manufacturing sites in NC since these training institutes opened in 2008; more than 40% of this investment and 20% of the proposed new jobs were announced since the start of 2024, demonstrating the recent acceleration of growth in the state. We now can do something similar in the industrial and agricultural space.

BioMADE, a federally funded nonprofit organization, is actively setting up facilities around the country to grow and scale up this newer biotechnology industry. North Carolina is on the short list for a pilot-scale facility, but the window is closing. A facility here in North Carolina would bring work here that is currently done either outside the state or outside the U.S. It would also attract companies to come here and grow here thanks to the enormous resources North Carolina can provide.

Please attend next week to hear more about this exciting opportunity.

Presenters:

Chairs: Sen Jay Chaudhuri, Rep Donna White, and Rep Robert Reives
Laura Gunter, President, NC Life Sciences Organization
Joe Lanier, Principal, Milestone Strategies and NCLifeSci lobbyist
Carson Billingsley, Business Relations Partner, Novonesis
Heather Smith, Head of Regional Strategy, Novonesis
Benjamin Griffin, PhD, Vice President R&D, Biomason

Meeting Details

Date: Wednesday, May 21

Time: 7:30 AM – 8:30 a.m.

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 or Joe Lanier, NCLifeSci lobbyist, at joe@milestonestrategiesnc.com. **Please RSVP by COB Monday, May 19, so that we can properly communicate with the cafeteria staff.**
