



August 13, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Democratic Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Johnson, and Minority Leader Jeffries:

The Council of State Bioscience Associations (CSBA) is a coalition of independent state and territory based non-profit trade associations, each of which advocates for public policies that support responsible development and delivery of innovative life-sustaining and life-saving biotechnology solutions. We write to strongly urge you to support and pass an extension of the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs.

The majority of CSBA's member companies are research-intensive small and large biotechnology companies working on cutting-edge innovations. Most of these are pre-revenue human health companies that take enormous risks to develop the next generation of biomedical breakthroughs. Their pipelines have the potential to benefit millions of patients suffering from diseases for which there are no cures or treatments. Our companies are at the center of Congress' goal to strengthen American competitiveness and SBIR/STTR is a critical component to ensure the United States remains the leader in health advancement.

The SBIR/STTR Programs are currently set to expire on September 30, 2025. It would be damaging to American innovation and competitiveness if these programs were to expire. Therefore, the CSBA respectfully requests that you pass an extension of the SBIR/STTR programs prior to the September 30 expiration.

A lapse in SBIR/STTR funding would deal a serious blow to American innovation and small business job creation. Since 1982, these programs have been the largest source of early-stage capital for R&D-driven startups developing life-saving therapies. Even a short-term disruption could significantly harm the high-tech ecosystem and jeopardize critical biomedical progress. Federal agencies could also see their research and technology development stalled by a disruption in these programs. Both small businesses and the agencies need certainty, stability, and predictability to budget and plan for the future.

In addition, over 28 states currently supplement federal SBIR funds with state funds through SBIR matching-grant programs. These state programs are successful in attracting partners and investors needed to bring a biomedical innovation from the laboratory to the market. These funds also leverage new partnerships with a variety of stakeholders including academic research communities, private research foundations, and venture funders, who are all focused on generating increased synergies among other businesses in those states.

Therefore, the CSBA respectfully requests that you pass an extension of the SBIR/STTR programs prior to the September 30 expiration. This extension will give Congress the time it needs to develop and pass a comprehensive reauthorization bill for SBIR and STTR, one that includes needed changes and improvements. It will also give both small businesses and federal agencies certainty that these vital programs will not expire or be disrupted.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact CSBA Executive Director, Patrick Plues, at pplues@bio.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

AR- BIOArkansas

AZ- Arizona Bioindustry Association, Inc. (AZBio)

CA- Biocom California

CA- Southern California Biomedical Council

CA- California Life Sciences

CO- Colorado BioScience Association

CT- BioCT

DE- Delaware BioScience Association

FL- BioFlorida

GA- Georgia Life Sciences

IA- Iowa Biotechnology Association

ID- Idaho Technology Council

IL- Illinois Biotechnology Innovation Organization

IN- Indiana Life Sciences Association

KS- AdAstra BIO

KY- Kentucky Life Sciences Council

LA- Louisiana BIO

MA- MassBio

MD- Maryland Tech Council

ME- Bioscience Association of Maine (BioME)

MI- Michigan Biosciences Industry Association (MichBio)
MN- Medical Alley
MO- Missouri Biotechnology Association (MOBIO)
MT- Montana Bioscience Alliance
NC- NC Life Sciences Organization
ND- Bioscience Association of North Dakota
NE- Bio Nebraska
NH- NH Life Sciences (NHLS)
NJ- BioNJ
NM- New Mexico Biotechnology & Biomedical Association
NV- Nevada Biotechnology & Health Science Consortium
NY- NewYorkBIO
OH- Ohio Life Sciences Association
OK- Life Science Oklahoma
OR- Oregon Bioscience Association
PA- Life Sciences PA
PR- INDUNIV Research Center Inc.
RI- RI Bio
SC- SCbio
SD- South Dakota Biotech
TN- Life Science Tennessee
TX- Texas Healthcare & Bioscience Institute
UT- BioUtah
VA- Virginia Bio
WA- Life Science Washington
WI- BioForward Wisconsin
WV- Bioscience Association of West Virginia