

# POLICY PRIORITIES

## 88<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE IS NOW



#### TEXAS GLOBAL LIFE SCIENCE POWERHOUSE

Texas is one of the leading life science states in the country and continues to outpace national growth for the industry. We must continue to focus on strong policy initiatives to grow and strengthen the Texas life sciences industry.



#### DID YOU KNOW?

- Texas is home to more than 7,400 life science businesses and over 116,000 employees in related fields
- Texas' academic R&D complex is among the fastest growing in the U.S. since 2018
- Texas university R&D expenditures exceeded \$4.1 billion in 2020
- Texas received more than \$1.5 billion in NIH Funding in 2021
- Texas is 9th in the U.S. in patent awards with 5,312 awards in 2021
- Texas is 6th in the U.S. in bioscience venture capital investments with \$4.9 billion in 2021
- Since 2004, there have been 17,087 clinical trials open or completed in Texas

To learn more about the impact of the life science and bioscience industry in Texas, see the [2022 BIO/TEconomy Report](#), the [Texas Bioscience Industry Facts](#), and the [Texas Research In Your Backyard Reports](#). Reports are available at [www.thbi.com](http://www.thbi.com).

#### THBI TEAM

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# THBI is dedicated to ensuring access to diagnostics, therapies, and treatments that improve patient outcomes and save lives.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

THBI is focused on continuing to make Texas the best place to host the ever-growing life sciences industry. THBI supports legislation that:

- Creates a SBIR/STTR matching grant program in Texas.
- Continues the Office of the Governor's division of Texas Economic Development & Tourism.
- Creates or expands economic and tax incentives or credits for Research and Development (R&D).
- Supports efforts at all education levels to grow and expand STEM programs.
- Strengthens the supply chain.
- Ensures local communities have effective tools to attract and grow businesses in their regions.
- Supports skills development and training programs to ensure an effective and mobile workforce in Texas.
- Supports current state incentive programs such as TEF, GURI, and PDSBI.

## PROTECTING PATIENT ACCESS

THBI supports efforts that ensure patients have access to innovative therapies and treatments that are saving lives and improving health. THBI supports legislation that:

- Removes barriers patients face getting access to innovative therapies and treatments.
- Increases transparency for PBMs and simplifies patient utilization of their medical and drug benefits.
- Ensures healthcare practitioners can provide and prescribe the latest innovations.
- Ensures patients can access biomarker tests and every Texan has access to the most effective cancer treatments.
- Ensures patients can capture the full savings offered through rebates and manufacturer savings programs.
- Ensures patients in Medicaid continue to have access to a transparent and patient-centered drug utilization review process.

## RESEARCH & COMMERCIALIZATION

Research and technology transfer programs are creating the future of medicine at research hubs across Texas. THBI is focused on supporting their continued growth and success. THBI supports legislation that:

- Expands commercialization and product development at academic incubators and business accelerators growing life science businesses.
- Maintains current protections to intellectual property and patents.
- Expands research and technology transfer opportunities at universities and other research institutions.
- Creates consistent and transparent mechanisms to fund research at Texas' institutions of higher education, including TRBs and formula and non-formula funding.
- Ensures appropriate privacy protections while also continuing access to research and clinical trials.
- Continues investment into and ensuring the effectiveness of the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIIT).

## IMPROVING HEALTH & HEALTH PROGRAMS

THBI supports improving programs that provide care to the uninsured and under-insured in Texas, and ensuring effective and equitable public health programs and emergency response efforts. THBI supports legislation that:

- Ensures an effective response to infectious diseases.
- Ensures effective access to vaccines and management of the state vaccine programs and the ImmTrac Registry.
- Expands patient access to healthcare and insurance coverage programs.
- Ensures patients have access to the latest treatments and best practices when fighting rare and complex diseases.
- Supports smaller state health programs which are a lifeline to many individuals and families navigating the health care system.
- Promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion across all areas of the life sciences industry.