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NEW REGIONAL BIOTECH ASSOCIATION FORMED

--600+ Member Organization Will Focus on Policy/ Public Affairs in New England--

CAMBRIDGE --A non-profit, member-driven organization comprised of state biotech associations, companies, academic institutions, and other organizations with a collective mission to support and grow the biotechnology industry in New England today announced its formation and held the organization's first board meeting in Cambridge. The New England Biotech Association (NEBA) will serve as a regional policy and public affairs voice for the biotechnology and biopharmaceutical industry, committed to ensuring that New England remains a global leader in biotechnology and the life sciences.

On behalf of over 600 members from all six New England states, NEBA plans to: educate policy makers, the media, and the public about the biotech industry; promote public policies that foster innovation; encourage economic development in the biotech sector; and advocate continued patient access to life-saving and life-improving breakthrough biotechnology medicines.

NEBA members include the largest biotech associations in those states, including the Biotech Association of Maine, Connecticut United for Research Excellence (CURE), New Hampshire Bio/Medical Council, Rhode Island BioGroup, Massachusetts Biotechnology Council, Massachusetts High Technology Council, and the Biotech Association of Vermont (in formation).

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The organization has been in formation for over a year, after members identified the need to have a regional, umbrella group that focused outside of specific states and only on policy and public affairs issues.

“New England is a global leader in biotechnology, and we need to stay in that leadership role. This organization will be at the forefront of advancing issues and educating the public and policy leaders about life sciences and its present and future role in the region’s economy and health care system,” said NEBA Chair Paula C. Newton, President of the New Hampshire Bio/Medical Council.

To find out more about NEBA, visit www.newenglandbiotech.org

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