
Dodd, Lieberman, Murphy Secure Biotech Funding for UConn Health Center

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WASHINGTON, D.C. - Late yesterday, President Obama signed into law \$311,397 in funding secured by Senators Chris Dodd and Joe Lieberman, and Congressman Chris Murphy (CT-5) for the University of Connecticut's Technology Incubation Center in Farmington, Connecticut.

Last year, the University of Connecticut asked Dodd, Lieberman, and Murphy to seek funding through the annual Congressional appropriations process for the Health Center's Stem Cell Institute and Technology Incubation Program. The funding will aid in development of new biotechnology incubator facilities that support start up technology companies with growth potential, and promote job creation and economic diversification in Connecticut.

"Supporting start-up companies is particularly important in these tough economic times," said Dodd. "This funding will help maintain Connecticut's place on the cutting edge of technological innovation and development and support the jobs associated with these fields."

"The University plays a critical role in creating the innovative jobs and businesses of the future, and I am proud to support these efforts with federal funds. Programs that begin in the UConn Health Center will help eradicate diseases and improve the livelihoods of people throughout the world," said Lieberman.

"This funding will support Connecticut's edge as a hotbed of technological innovation and industry, particularly in the field of stem cell research. Providing support to startup technology companies is crucial to their success, because of the huge costs these entrepreneurs face in establishing the company's infrastructure. This represents a down payment on the future of high-tech jobs in Connecticut," said Murphy.

In recent weeks, both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate passed H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations bill, sending it out of Congress and to President Obama's desk. This legislation, which includes the \$311,000 for the UConn Health Center, wraps up work on the Fiscal Year 2009 appropriations bills, and works in harmony with the economic recovery package, making investments that address the country's immediate needs while

investing in our long term economic strength.

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