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Lt. Governor Guadagno Welcomes Life Science Companies to Business Roundtable

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

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Roundtable Focuses on Life Sciences as an Engine of Innovation

Trenton, NJ – Highlighting New Jersey's leadership as a home for innovation and the "Medicine Chest of the World," Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno today addressed the New Jersey Performing Arts Center's (NJPAC) Business Partners "Life Sciences as an Engine of Innovation" Roundtable, presented in association with the HealthCare Institute of New Jersey (HINJ).

"New Jersey truly provides one-stop shopping for your R&D needs. We have built a vibrant innovation community – from Angel Investors to incubators, from Fortune 500 companies to research institutions – that works in supportive collaboration to drive growth and discovery in our state," said Lt. Governor Guadagno. "This 'innovation ecosystem' uniquely positions New Jersey to strengthen its domestic and global biotech market share in the coming years."

Over the last six years, the Administration has focused on creating an innovation ecosystem in New Jersey where state government, universities, organizations and businesses can work together for shared success. For example, the Lt. Governor added the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education to the Partnership for Action to ensure that New Jersey's students and workforce are highly educated and prepared for the 21st-century jobs of the future. In March, the Lt. Governor kicked off the Million Women Mentors program in New Jersey to connect young women pursuing STEM education and careers with mentors to help them achieve their goals.

"The Lt. Governor has been a tireless advocate for the greater New Jersey business community. She is a strong, active ally to the state's innovation-driven life sciences industry, as most recently reflected by her efforts to promote the state to life sciences companies at last week's BIO 2015 International Convention in Philadelphia," said Dean Paranicas, President and Chief Executive Officer of HINJ. "We appreciate the Lt. Governor's asserting the Christie Administration's continued commitment to New Jersey's life sciences community at this morning's event."

Last week, Lt. Governor Guadagno led the largest-ever New Jersey delegation at BIO International 2015 in Philadelphia and welcomed a record number of attendees to the Choose New Jersey Prospect Dinner. New Jersey is a leader in the life sciences industry, with the world's highest concentration of scientists and engineers per square mile and operations of 14 of the 20 largest biopharmaceutical companies. Overall, the state is home to more than 3,100 life science and biopharmaceutical establishments, 63 colleges and universities, 4 medical schools and 13 teaching hospitals.

NJPAC began hosting a series of Roundtables in 2006 as a resource for participants of its Business Partners program, whose members represent more than 90 multinational corporations and privately-held businesses in New York and New Jersey. The Roundtables bring together corporate supporters of NJPAC approximately six times a year for an opportunity to network, share ideas and hear from guest speakers from both the private and public sectors on issues facing the business community.

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Press Contact:
Kevin Roberts

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Brian Murray
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Office of the Governor
PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625
609-292-6000