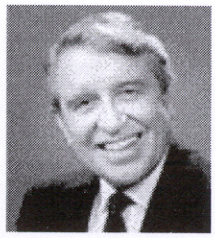
NEWS FROM
JACK SCOTT
21ST SENATE DISTRICT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GOVERNOR SIGNS PASADENA BIOTECHNOLOGY CENTER BILL

SB 327 also implements bioinnovation workforce training program

Senator Jack Scott announced today that Governor Davis signed into law SB 327 which moves the Pasadena Bioscience Innovation and Training Center to its next stage of development.

SB 327 implements $200,000 that Senator Scott secured in the State Budget for the development of the Pasadena biotechnology project. A portion of the funds will be used to develop a bioinnovation workforce training program that will bridge the gap between classroom instruction and workplace practice, using state-of-the-art instrumentation. This project is being developed by California State University in conjunction with Huntington Memorial Research Institute and other local agencies.

"I am pleased that the Governor signed this bill that moves forward the development of the Pasadena Biotechnology Center project. The Pasadena center will be an economic boon to this region." Said Senator Scott.

"The Center will help biotech companies to remain in Pasadena and this area – rather than moving out of state. The center will include research facilities, workforce training center, and business incubator components. The center also helps our students to be well-trained and ready to enter these jobs of the future," continued Senator Scott.

"The collaborative partnership between the City of Pasadena, California State University, Caltech, Pasadena City College, and Huntington Institute in developing the Center is vital to this project's future," Scott concluded.

A state-funded feasibility study, released in December, 2000, cited strong local demand for biotechnology training, research, and incubation services, and recommended the creation of the Pasadena Biotechnology Center to accelerate further concentration and growth of biotechnology enterprise in Pasadena and the Los Angeles region.

The proposed center would include a world-class biotechnology workforce training center, core research laboratories and instrumentation, process manufacturing, and a biotechnology business incubator. The center would also emphasize bioinformatics, a rapidly expanding specialization combining biology and computer science.

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