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Before The Commerce Committee**March 9, 2017****Testimony of CURE (Connecticut United for Research Excellence)****“Support For”****S.B. No. 959 (RAISED) - AN ACT CONCERNING AN INVENTORY OF THE STATE'S BIOSCIENCE EDUCATION PIPELINE**

Co-Chair Hartley, Co-Chair Frantz, Co-Chair Simmons, Ranking Member Yaccarino, Vice Chair Reyes, Vice Chair Linares, Vice Chair Larson, Members of the Commerce Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen:

My name is Dr. Anthony Sabatelli. I am a partner with the intellectual property law firm of Dilworth IP, in Trumbull, CT. I chair the Government Affairs Committee of CURE, a 501(c)(3) organization that has for over 25 years represented the bioscience cluster of Connecticut. Our role at CURE is to educate and foster discussion on key topics affecting the growth and sustainability of Connecticut's bioscience community. We have a strong membership comprised of individuals, investors, economic development organizations, universities, research institutes, small and large biopharmaceutical companies, medical device companies, and service providers.

CURE thanks the Commerce Committee for raising S.B. No. 959 and for this opportunity to testify. CURE supports this Bill because it can only help to strengthen and grow the vibrant biotechnology industry we have already established here in Connecticut. Consider the following:

- Nearly 25,000 people are employed by the bioscience industry in Connecticut
- The State has already invested heavily in the industry
- The State must protect and grow its investment
- The State must remain competitive in bioscience
- Bioscience is the future

Summary

For the foregoing reasons, CURE urges this Committee to progress S.B. No. 959. It is important for the State to conduct the inventory, particularly if it is committed to providing a strong educational system for training and retaining a high caliber talent pool for its biotechnology industry. The Bill is therefore in the best interest of the State's biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries, and for developing new and innovative medicines and therapies for our people.

Thank you,

Anthony D. Sabatelli

Anthony D. Sabatelli, PhD, JD
Chair, Government Affairs Committee, CURE