

04.16.08 - Life Sciences Expansion in Billerica

Governor Deval L. Patrick

EMD Serono Expansion Remarks

April 16, 2008

As Delivered

From 25 years here in the Commonwealth we know just how exciting the efforts and the promise of EMD Serono will be both in terms of advancing healing and growing our economy. With this further investment of \$50 million you add another 100 jobs in Massachusetts and another 100 opportunities for Massachusetts people to apply their talent and build better futures for themselves, their families, and for all of us.

So on behalf of my colleagues in government and all of the people in Massachusetts thank you for choosing the Commonwealth and maybe you do not hear that often enough. Let me tell you, thank you for choosing us.

There was a great team who were a part of making this work for you and I want to acknowledge them and thank them because they do it over and over and over again for companies all across the commonwealth. We want you to know at EMD Serono and all of those in the industry that you are welcome here in Massachusetts.

I am proud to say that today's announcement is the third in two weeks about a life sciences company that has chosen to grow business and locate jobs here. It is happening all across the Commonwealth.

Indeed, we are not anymore 49th in the nation, Fereydoun, for job creation. We moved last year to 15th in the nation. This morning we published job numbers showing that in the face of weakening national economic statistics, Massachusetts added upwards of 3,000 new jobs in February and March alone. We are on the move.

Our Life Sciences Initiative, that \$1 billion, 10 year investment to accelerate our world leadership in this sector as contributed to that good news which Fereydoun said. The world knows that as a Commonwealth we are serious about you, about this industry, about its possibilities for healing and for its opportunity for economic expansion.

The Life Sciences initiative has indeed passed out of both the House and the Senate. It is a better bill now that it was when it went in. It has been improved by the collaboration of the members of the house and the senate and the industry and EMD Serono has been a part of that and I want to thank you all.

Senator Marzilli, Rep Green, Rep Atkins, who is here, and all of the members who have contributed to making this bill as strong as it is. I look forward to signing it very soon indeed.

We will continue because this is an industry that has great promise for all of us on a host of levels. We want you to know whether you are here in the presence of those of us making these announcements, or within our sounds of our voice and images in Rockland and elsewhere, that you are welcome here. We value you. We look forward to continuing this partnership and we wish you every success. Thank you for having us here.