

February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025

To: The Honorable Marvin L. Abney  
Chair, House Finance Committee

RE: Support for FY26 Economic Development Article, Innovation Initiatives

Dear Chairman Abney and Members of the House Committee on Finance,

I am writing in support of the sunset extension of the Innovation Initiatives Act under FY26 Economic Development Article and request that the Committee consider allocating funding for this line item.

As a recipient of the Innovation Voucher, we have greatly benefitted from gaining access to cutting-edge research and know-how at our partner institution to advance our drug development program in neurodegenerative diseases, including Alzheimer's disease. Making a new therapy is very difficult, and companies like ours need all the help and support they can get in order to maximize the chance of successfully developing new medicines for these terrible diseases. This program enables Rhode Island companies to leverage the excellent knowledge providers in the state to advance impactful research and development in the state.

In conclusion, I urge the Committee to support the sunset extension of the Innovation Initiatives and consider allocating funding to the Innovation programs for next fiscal year.

Respectfully,

Johnny Page

Co-founder and CEO

Bolden Therapeutics