

## Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm attends Chicago conference in order to win more biotech jobs for the state

By Jackie Headapohl

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Governor Jennifer M. Granholm and Greg Main, president and CEO of the **Michigan Economic Development Corporation**, were at the BIO International Conference in Chicago today where they met with venture-capital firms and life-science industry leaders in an effort to bring more life-sciences jobs to Michigan.

"Michigan's biotech industry is one of the fastest-growing in the nation thanks to some of the world's best research institutions, a highly-skilled workforce and innovative economic development tools like the 21st Century Jobs Fund and the SmartZones program," Granholm said in a press release. "We want to further strengthen our efforts by attracting more venture capital to foster increased entrepreneurship that will create new jobs in our communities."



The **2010 BIO International Convention** features high-level industry leaders discussing public policy issues of critical importance to all segments of the biotechnology industry.

"Our goal at this conference is to help investors and entrepreneurs understand why Michigan's life sciences industry is growing exponentially, and why it makes sense to do business in our state," Main said.

The governor also announced today at the conference that the **2010 World Stem Cell Summit**, to be held Oct. 4-6, at the Detroit Renaissance Center, will kick off with a free "Public Education Day" on Oct. 3 at the Detroit Science Center.

"Michigan is poised to establish itself as a leader in stem cells and the growing regenerative medicine industry," Granholm said. "The Public Education Day will be a fantastic opportunity for the public to learn more about the promise of stem cell research and the cures that will be coming soon."

Michigan's life sciences industry employs more than 79,000 people, according to a recent study. The state is home to over 550 life sciences companies.

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