



News Release

From the North Carolina Biosciences Organization

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Statement Regarding New US-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement

Durham, NC (October 15, 2018) – The North Carolina Biosciences Organization (NCBIO) has issued the following statement in support of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement announced by the Trump Administration last week:

“The Administration’s recent United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) is an important step toward improving trade prospects with Mexico and Canada. We especially welcome the Administration’s negotiation of stronger intellectual property protections for the next generation of biotechnology breakthroughs. Specifically, the USMCA requires Mexico and Canada to support ten years of data protection for biologic drugs, up from the current five years in Mexico and eight years in Canada.

The United States currently provides twelve years of data protection for biologic drugs. These protections help the life science industry recover the enormous expense of developing, testing and manufacturing new biologic drugs. It is no exaggeration to say that these types of intellectual property protections are the lifeblood of the bioscience industry’s intellectual property rights. Strong and dependable intellectual property standards are critical to fueling innovation, attracting investment, and ensuring that patients, and consumers around the globe have access to the next generation of biotechnology breakthroughs.”

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