

Contact: Anthony Girardi

**STATUS REPORT: RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE AND  
COMMERCIALIZATION FUNDING INITIATIVES**

**Action Requested:** Receive the report.

**Executive Summary:** State Relations Officer Andy Baumert will provide an oral report on Regents enterprise initiatives to secure and invest funding for research infrastructure and commercialization. The report will describe the progress of the Regents enterprise's recommendations through the state's budget-making process.

**Background:** Governor Vilsack has proposed that Iowa invest up to \$50 million in research and commercialization initiatives outlined in the Battelle report. According to the governor's proposal, the state would obtain funds for this purpose through tobacco settlement re-financing.

The Regent universities have recommended that, of these funds, \$41 million should be used to upgrade the research infrastructure at the Regent universities and \$9 million invested in business opportunities through a commercialization resources organization (or CRO). According to the plan, the CRO would provide a systematic interface among all three Regent universities and the private sector.