On April 23, 2020, the Bayh-Dole 40 Coalition and the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation co-hosted a video webinar on the critical role that public-private partnerships will play in combating COVID-19. Speakers detailed how these partnerships work, what risks they entail, why intellectual property protections are so important to biomedical innovation.

The video webinar attracted more than **650 total registrants**, including representatives and reporters from:

- U.S. Department of Commerce
- U.S. Department of State
- U.S. House of Representatives
- U.S. Senate
- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)
- The New York Times
- Associated Press
- Bloomberg News
- Axios
- The Financial Times

The video webinar’s live viewership peaked with **293 concurrent viewers** and since being recorded, has had **388 hours** of watch time and **746 views**.

Speakers:

- Joseph Allen, Founder and Executive Director of Bayh-Dole 40
- Stephen Ezell, ITIF Vice President for Global Innovation Policy
- Wendy Commins Holman, CEO and Founder of Ridgeback Biotherapeutics
- Mark Rohrbaugh, NIH Special Advisor for Technology Transfer
- Jon Soderstrom, Managing Director of the Yale University Office of Cooperative Research

Efforts to undermine the Bayh-Dole Act by prohibiting exclusive licensing of government-supported research or setting prices for the resulting products could have worrying consequences, not just for this pandemic, but for ones that could prove more deadly in the future.

Dear Colleague Letter from Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC) and Senator Christopher A. Coons (D-DE)

Webinar: Bayh-Dole and the Coronavirus Crisis

| Thursday, April 23, 2020 – 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM EDT 

Dear Colleague:

We would like to draw your attention to a video webinar presenting leaders in academia, government, and industry discussing the role of the Bayh-Dole Act in combating the COVID-19 pandemic by leveraging federal investments in basic research into private investments in applied research and development. Sponsored by the Bayh-Dole 40 Coalition and the Information Technology & Innovation Foundation, this event provides an opportunity to hear about these critical partnerships between industry, academia, and federal labs.

Speakers will include:

• Joseph P. Allen – former staffer to Senator Birch Bayh and former President, National Technology Transfer Center
• Wendy Commins Holman – CEO and Founder, Ridgeback Biotherapeutics
• Mark Rohrbough – Special Advisor for Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health
• Jon Soderstrom – Managing Director, University Technology Commercialization and Faculty Innovation, Yale University
• Stephen Ezell – Vice President, Global Innovation Policy, Information Technology & Innovation Foundation

You can register at the following link.

Sincerely,

Thom Tillis
United States Senator

Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator

Learn How a Revolutionary Law Will Help Defeat COVID-19

Sending Office: Honorable Bill Foster
Sent By: Merit.Schumaker@mail.house.gov

Attend a video webinar: Bayh-Dole and the Coronavirus Crisis
Thursday, April 23, 2020 - 12:30 PM TO 1:45 PM EDT
You can register at the following link: https://itif.org/events/register?event_id=9111.

Dear Colleague,

Did you know that a 40 year old law is responsible for moving new discoveries from the lab bench to reality, creating jobs in the STEM professions and leveraging a federal investment in basic research into significant private investments in applied R&D? These partnerships are responsible for the rapid advances being made in treating the COVID-19 pandemic.

We hope you can participate in a video webinar sponsored by the Bayh-Dole 40 Coalition and the Information Technology & Innovation Foundation where you can hear from leaders in academia, government, and industry about this exciting field and how partnerships between industry, academia, and federal labs are combating Covid-19.

Speakers will include:

• Joseph P. Allen: Former staffer to Senator Birch Bayh and former President, National Technology Transfer Center
• Wendy Commins Holman: CEO and Founder, Ridgeback Biotherapeutics, recently approved by FDA to being clinical trials of a new antiviral in partnership with Emory University.
• Mark Rohrbough: Special Advisor for Technology Transfer, National Institute of Health
• Jon Soderstrom: Managing Director, University Technology Commercialization and Faculty Innovation, Yale University
• Stephen Ezell: Vice President, Global Innovation Policy, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation

You can register at the following link: https://itif.org/events/register?event_id=9111

If you have questions please reach out to Merit Schumaker (merit.schumaker@mail.house.gov) with Congressman Foster and Nick Bush (Nick.Bush@mail.house.gov) with Congressman Stivers.

Sincerely,

Bill Foster
Member of Congress

Steve Stivers
Member of Congress

https://youtu.be/poN2rhUNHus