



**SENJU PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD.**

SENJU LABORATORY OF OCULAR SCIENCES

Mitsuyoshi Azuma  
4640 S Macadam Ave., Suite 200C  
Portland, OR 97239  
azumam@ohsu.edu  
503-894-8618

*Mar 25, 2025*

Dear Representative Daniel Nguyen and Members of the Committee,

House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade  
900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Nguyen and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for Oregon House Bill 2417, which aims to provide funding for the Oregon Translational Research Development Institute (OTRADI) and Oregon Bioscience Incubator (OBI). We strongly agree that these organizations play a pivotal role in fostering innovation, economic growth, and job creation within Oregon's bioscience sector. As the director of research & development at a Japanese pharmaceutical company, Senju Pharmaceutical, I have witnessed firsthand the impact of OTRADI and OBI. Our company specializes in developing ophthalmologic drugs that cure or slow down various eye diseases, including inflammation, dry eye, cataract, glaucoma, and AMD. Although we are an established foreign company, OTRADI welcomed us when we were looking for our research laboratory space in 2013. We benefit greatly from being here at the incubator alongside other startup companies with their cutting-edge biotechnologies. Their efforts to support early-stage-startup companies have provided us with vital research laboratory space and the opportunity to build strong connections within the Oregon bioscience community.

OTRADI is one of Oregon's Centers of Innovation Excellence, a non-profit research and economic development organization established in 2008 and based in Portland, Oregon. OTRADI is the conduit from university-driven basic research to federal grant-funded proof-of-concept studies, startup formation, industry partnerships, and venture capital funding.

SENJU PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD. 4640 S Macadam Ave., Ste. 200C, Portland, OR 97239  
Phone: (503) 894-8618

In 2013, OTRADI opened the Oregon Bioscience Incubator (OBI) as the state's first and only startup incubator dedicated exclusively to biosciences. OBI fills a critical and growing need in Oregon's expanding industry by providing top-notch laboratory facilities, entrepreneurial support services, and specialized mentoring aimed at reducing costs for and supporting emerging companies in digital health, diagnostics, medical devices, and therapeutics.

The funding proposed in HB 2417 is critical to ensuring that the Centers of Innovation Excellence can continue their mission of fostering innovation and creating high-wage jobs in Oregon. By investing in these organizations, we are not only supporting the growth of the local bioscience industry but also positioning Oregon as a leader in life sciences and technology. Given the recent NIH cuts, securing this OTRADI funding is more important now than ever.

I urge you to vote in favor of HB 2417 and to continue championing initiatives that drive economic development and innovation in our state. Thank you for your consideration and your commitment to fostering a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem in Oregon. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mitsuyoshi Azuma, Ph.D.

Director

Senju Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.