

GO BAY STATE

Yes, it's official: Massachusetts ranks first in the Milken Institute's 2008 State Technology and Science Index, followed by Maryland, Colorado and California. North Dakota showed the greatest gains, moving up 14 positions to 31st; Hawaii did pretty well, too, up 11 spots to 28th. Mississippi has the dubious honor of being ranked 50th again, and West Virginia slid from 46th to 49th place.

The study was made possible in part through the support of Goodwin Procter LLP. It, and a separate report that examines California's technology and science assets in depth, are available at www.milkeninstitute.org.

REALITY SHOW

According to a new Milken Institute analysis, the 2007 Hollywood writers' strike cost the already struggling California economy some \$2.1 billion in lost output along with 37,700 jobs. "The Writers' Strike of 2007-2008: The Economic Impact of Digital Distribution" also provides background on the key issues of the strike, especially the growing importance of digital media. Download it free at www.milkeninstitute.org.

AT \$2 BILLION, A BARGAIN

Israel's nascent biotechnology sector has tremendous potential to drive economic growth and position the nation as a leader in providing health care solutions to the world. However, there's a catch. According to a new Milken Institute report, "Accelerating Medical Solutions in Israel: Building a Global Life Science Industry," Israel needs to invest some \$2 billion in its life sciences sector within the

next three years to reach critical mass.

The report, from a Financial and Policy Medical Innovations Lab held in December 2007 in Jerusalem, is part of the Milken Institute's continuing work in Israel through the MI Israel Center. Download it from – yes, that's right – www.milkeninstitute.org.



CALIFORNIA DREAMING

The Milken Institute's annual State of the State Conference brings together California's leading lawmakers, senior business executives, investors, academic experts and journalists for an extraordinary day of debate about the state's future. This year's conference takes place on Tuesday, October 28, at the Beverly Hilton in Los Angeles. The program includes sessions on:

- Real Estate: Where Is the Capital to Create a Turnaround?
- The Global Search for Talent: How Does California Maintain Its Leadership Role?
- Funding State Government: How Can We Stop the Budget Roller Coaster?
- How to Keep the Entertainment Industry Rolling in California
- Innovative Solutions to Make California Work
- Alternative Energy: Maintaining California's Leadership

Visit www.milkeninstitute.org/sos2008 for more information. **M**