The American Cures Act

Federal investment in biomedical research has generated medical discoveries and scientific innovations that have led to longer lives, created new industries, and established the U.S. as a leader in research and development. But years of stagnant federal investment in biomedical research jeopardize future life-saving discoveries and our standing as a global leader in research. To turn that around, the American Cures Act proposes a 5% increase in funding dedicated to steady growth in this important field.

American Cures Act

The bill authorizes additional investment for the following agencies and programs, which represent the core drivers of federally funded biomedical research in the U.S.:

- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Department of Defense Health Program (DHP)
- Veterans Medical & Prosthetics Research Program

The bill would also create a budget cap adjustment through the remaining years of the Budget Control Act so that these additional appropriations are not at the expense of other important investments.

Estimated Cost

Each year, the bill would increase funding for each agency and program at a rate of GDP-indexed inflation plus 5%. This steady, long-term investment allows the agencies to plan and manage strategic growth while maximizing efficiencies. Based on projections from the Congressional Budget Office, investment at this pace will require an additional $150 billion over 10 years.

Stagnant Investment in Biomedical Research

This graph illustrates the decline in biomedical research in constant dollars from 2004-2014.

![Graph of Federal Funding for NIH, CDC, VA Research, and DHP in Constant Dollars from 2004 to 2014](image-url)