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 to augment federal appropriations for biomedical research with a mandatory trust fund dedicated to steady growth in federally funded biomedical research.

**American Cures Act**

The bill creates a trust fund to support a mandatory funding stream. That funding will be available to the Appropriations Committee to supplement discretionary appropriations 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 mandatory funding is dependent on appropriation levels at or above FY14 levels, ensuring that the American Cures Act does not supplant discretionary spending for the eligible programs.

**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.