

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4494

To prioritize funding for an expanded and sustained national investment
in biomedical research.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 12, 2026

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. VAN
HOLLEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Appropriations

A BILL

To prioritize funding for an expanded and sustained national
investment in biomedical research.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “American Cures Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. APPROPRIATIONS FOR INNOVATION.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are hereby authorized to be
7 appropriated, and appropriated, out of any monies in the
8 Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the following:

1 (1) NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH.—For
2 the National Institutes of Health at the Department
3 of Health and Human Services—

4 (A) for fiscal year 2027, \$52,467,132,000;

5 (B) for fiscal year 2028, \$56,507,101,164;

6 (C) for fiscal year 2029, \$60,858,147,954;

7 (D) for fiscal year 2030, \$65,544,225,346;

8 (E) for fiscal year 2031, \$70,591,130,698;

9 (F) for fiscal year 2032, \$76,026,647,762;

10 (G) for fiscal year 2033, \$81,880,699,640;

11 (H) for fiscal year 2034, \$88,185,513,512;

12 (I) for fiscal year 2035, \$94,975,798,052;

13 (J) for fiscal year 2036,

14 \$102,288,934,502; and

15 (K) for fiscal year 2037 and each fiscal
16 year thereafter, the amount appropriated under
17 this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, in-
18 creased by the percentage increase (if any),
19 during the previous fiscal year, in the Con-
20 sumer Price Index for all urban consumers pub-
21 lished by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

22 (2) CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PRE-
23 VENTION.—For the Centers for Disease Control and
24 Prevention at the Department of Health and Human
25 Services—

- 1 (A) for fiscal year 2027, \$ 9,911,621,307;
2 (B) for fiscal year 2028, \$10,674,816,148;
3 (C) for fiscal year 2029, \$11,496,776,991;
4 (D) for fiscal year 2030, \$12,382,028,819;
5 (E) for fiscal year 2031, \$13,335,445,038;
6 (F) for fiscal year 2032, \$14,362,274,306;
7 (G) for fiscal year 2033, \$15,468,169,428;
8 (H) for fiscal year 2034, \$16,659,218,474;
9 (I) for fiscal year 2035, \$17,941,978,296;
10 (J) for fiscal year 2036, \$19,323,510,625;

11 and

12 (K) for fiscal year 2037 and each fiscal
13 year thereafter, the amount appropriated under
14 this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, in-
15 creased by the percentage increase (if any),
16 during the previous fiscal year, in the Con-
17 sumer Price Index for all urban consumers pub-
18 lished by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

19 (3) RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND
20 EVALUATION PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
21 DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM.—For the research, de-
22 velopment, test, and evaluation program of the De-
23 partment of Defense health program—

- 24 (A) for fiscal year 2027, \$2,939,358,093;
25 (B) for fiscal year 2028, \$3,165,688,666;

- 1 (C) for fiscal year 2029, \$3,409,451,694;
2 (D) for fiscal year 2030, \$3,671,979,474;
3 (E) for fiscal year 2031, \$3,954,721,894;
4 (F) for fiscal year 2032, \$4,259,235,480;
5 (G) for fiscal year 2033, \$4,587,196,612;
6 (H) for fiscal year 2034, \$4,940,412,751;
7 (I) for fiscal year 2035, \$5,320,824,534;
8 (J) for fiscal year 2036, \$5,730,508,023;

9 and

10 (K) for fiscal year 2037 and each fiscal
11 year thereafter, the amount appropriated under
12 this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, in-
13 creased by the percentage increase (if any),
14 during the previous fiscal year, in the Con-
15 sumer Price Index for all urban consumers pub-
16 lished by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

17 (4) MEDICAL AND PROSTHETICS RESEARCH
18 PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-
19 FAIRS.—For the medical and prosthetics research
20 program of the Department of Veterans Affairs—

- 21 (A) for fiscal year 2027, \$1,071,765,000;
22 (B) for fiscal year 2028, \$1,096,132,905;
23 (C) for fiscal year 2029, \$1,180,535,138;
24 (D) for fiscal year 2030, \$1,271,436,344;
25 (E) for fiscal year 2031, \$1,369,336,942;

1 (F) for fiscal year 2032, \$1,474,775,887;

2 (G) for fiscal year 2033, \$1,588,333,630;

3 (H) for fiscal year 2034, \$1,710,636,320;

4 (I) for fiscal year 2035, \$1,842,355,321;

5 (J) for fiscal year 2036, \$1,984,218,681;

6 and

7 (K) for fiscal year 2037 and each fiscal
8 year thereafter, the amount appropriated under
9 this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, in-
10 creased by the percentage increase (if any),
11 during the previous fiscal year, in the Con-
12 sumer Price Index for all urban consumers pub-
13 lished by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

14 (b) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated under
15 subsection (a) shall remain available until expended.

16 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 (1) CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PRE-
18 VENTION.—The term “Centers for Disease Control
19 and Prevention” means the appropriations accounts
20 that support the various institutes, offices, and cen-
21 ters that make up the Centers for Disease Control
22 and Prevention.

23 (2) RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND
24 EVALUATION PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
25 DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM.—The term “research,

1 development, test, and evaluation program of the
2 Department of Defense health program” means the
3 appropriations accounts that support the various in-
4 stitutes, offices, and centers that make up the re-
5 search, development, test, and evaluation program of
6 the Department of Defense health program.

7 (3) MEDICAL AND PROSTHETICS RESEARCH
8 PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-
9 FAIRS.—The term “medical and prosthetics research
10 program of the Department of Veterans Affairs”
11 means the appropriations accounts that support the
12 various institutes, offices, and centers that make up
13 the medical and prosthetics research program of the
14 Department of Veterans Affairs.

15 (4) NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH.—The
16 term “National Institutes of Health” means the ap-
17 propriations accounts that support the various insti-
18 tutes, offices, and centers that make up the National
19 Institutes of Health.

20 (d) EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS FROM
21 SEQUESTRATION.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 255(g)(1)(A) of the
23 Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control
24 Act (2 U.S.C. 905(g)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting
25 after “Advances to the Unemployment Trust Fund

1 and Other Funds (16–0327–0–1–600).” the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “Appropriations under the American
4 Cures Act.”.

5 (2) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by
6 this section shall apply to any sequestration order
7 issued under the Balanced Budget and Emergency
8 Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900 et seq.)
9 on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

10 (e) BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—

11 (1) STATUTORY PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The
12 budgetary effects of this section shall not be entered
13 on either PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to
14 section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of
15 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(d)).

16 (2) SENATE PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budg-
17 etary effects of this section shall not be entered on
18 any PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of
19 section 4106 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

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