

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 961

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 24, 2021

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. SCHATZ, and
Ms. BALDWIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and
referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To prioritize funding for an expanded and sustained national
investment in basic science 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 Innovation
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. APPROPRIATIONS FOR INNOVATION.**

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

1 (1) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—For the
2 National Science Foundation—

- 3 (A) for fiscal year 2022, \$9,081,000,000;
4 (B) for fiscal year 2023, \$9,716,000,000;
5 (C) for fiscal year 2024, \$10,397,000,000;
6 (D) for fiscal year 2025, \$11,124,000,000;
7 (E) for fiscal year 2026, \$11,903,000,000;
8 (F) for fiscal year 2027, \$12,736,000,000;
9 (G) for fiscal year 2028, \$13,628,000,000;
10 (H) for fiscal year 2029, \$14,582,000,000;
11 (I) for fiscal year 2030, \$15,603,000,000;
12 (J) for fiscal year 2031, \$16,695,000,000;

13 and

14 (K) for fiscal year 2032 and each fiscal
15 year thereafter, the amount appropriated under
16 this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, in-
17 creased by the percentage increase (if any),
18 during the previous fiscal year, in the Con-
19 sumer Price Index for all urban consumers pub-
20 lished by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

21 (2) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, OFFICE OF
22 SCIENCE.—For the Office of Science at the Depart-
23 ment of Energy—

- 24 (A) for fiscal year 2022, \$7,518,000,000;
25 (B) for fiscal year 2023, \$8,044,000,000;

- 1 (C) for fiscal year 2024, \$8,607,000,000;
2 (D) for fiscal year 2025, \$9,210,000,000;
3 (E) for fiscal year 2026, \$9,854,000,000;
4 (F) for fiscal year 2027, \$10,544,000,000;
5 (G) for fiscal year 2028, \$11,282,000,000;
6 (H) for fiscal year 2029, \$12,072,000,000;
7 (I) for fiscal year 2030, \$12,917,000,000;
8 (J) for fiscal year 2031, \$13,821,000,000;

9 and

10 (K) for fiscal year 2032 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 (3) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SCIENCE AND
18 TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS.—For the Department of
19 Defense science and technology programs—

- 20 (A) for fiscal year 2022, \$18,054,000,000;
21 (B) for fiscal year 2023, \$19,318,000,000;
22 (C) for fiscal year 2024, \$20,670,000,000;
23 (D) for fiscal year 2025, \$22,117,000,000;
24 (E) for fiscal year 2026, \$23,665,000,000;
25 (F) for fiscal year 2027, \$25,322,000,000;

1 (G) for fiscal year 2028, \$27,094,000,000;

2 (H) for fiscal year 2029, \$28,991,000,000;

3 (I) for fiscal year 2030, \$31,020,000,000;

4 (J) for fiscal year 2031, \$33,192,000,000;

5 and

6 (K) for fiscal year 2032 and each fiscal
7 year thereafter, the amount appropriated under
8 this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, in-
9 creased by the percentage increase (if any),
10 during the previous fiscal year, in the Con-
11 sumer Price Index for all urban consumers pub-
12 lished by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

13 (4) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND
14 TECHNOLOGY SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RE-
15 SEARCH AND SERVICES.—For the scientific and
16 technical research and services of the National Insti-
17 tute of Standards and Technology at the Depart-
18 ment of Commerce—

19 (A) for fiscal year 2022, \$843,000,000;

20 (B) for fiscal year 2023, \$902,000,000;

21 (C) for fiscal year 2024, \$965,000,000;

22 (D) for fiscal year 2025, \$1,033,000,000;

23 (E) for fiscal year 2026, \$1,105,000,000;

24 (F) for fiscal year 2027, \$1,183,000,000;

25 (G) for fiscal year 2028, \$1,265,000,000;

1 (H) for fiscal year 2029, \$1,354,000,000;

2 (I) for fiscal year 2030, \$1,449,000,000;

3 (J) for fiscal year 2031, \$1,550,000,000;

4 and

5 (K) for fiscal year 2032 and each fiscal

6 year thereafter, the amount appropriated under

7 this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, in-

8 creased by the percentage increase (if any),

9 during the previous fiscal year, in the Con-

10 sumer Price Index for all urban consumers pub-

11 lished by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

12 (5) NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE AD-

13 MINISTRATION SCIENCE MISSION DIRECTORATE.—

14 For the Science Mission Directorate at the National

15 Aeronautics and Space Administration—

16 (A) for fiscal year 2022, \$7,728,000,000;

17 (B) for fiscal year 2023, \$8,268,000,000;

18 (C) for fiscal year 2024, \$8,847,000,000;

19 (D) for fiscal year 2025, \$9,467,000,000;

20 (E) for fiscal year 2026, \$10,129,000,000;

21 (F) for fiscal year 2027, \$10,838,000,000;

22 (G) for fiscal year 2028, \$11,597,000,000;

23 (H) for fiscal year 2029, \$12,409,000,000;

24 (I) for fiscal year 2030, \$13,277,000,000;

1 (J) for fiscal year 2031, \$14,207,000,000;

2 and

3 (K) for fiscal year 2032 and each fiscal
4 year thereafter, the amount appropriated under
5 this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, in-
6 creased by the percentage increase (if any),
7 during the previous fiscal year, in the Con-
8 sumer Price Index for all urban consumers pub-
9 lished by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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

12 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

13 (1) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SCIENCE AND
14 TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS.—The term “Department
15 of Defense science and technology programs” means
16 the appropriations accounts that support the various
17 institutes, offices, and centers that make up the De-
18 partment of Defense science and technology pro-
19 grams.

20 (2) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—The
21 term “National Science Foundation” means the ap-
22 propriations accounts that support the various insti-
23 tutes, offices, and centers that make up the National
24 Science Foundation.

1 (3) OFFICE OF SCIENCE AT THE DEPARTMENT
2 OF ENERGY.—The term “Office of Science at the
3 Department of Energy” means the appropriations
4 accounts that support the various institutes, offices,
5 and centers that make up the Department of Energy
6 Office of Science.

7 (4) SCIENCE MISSION DIRECTORATE AT THE
8 NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRA-
9 TION.—The term “Science Mission Directorate at
10 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration”
11 means the appropriations accounts that support the
12 various institutes, offices, and centers that make up
13 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration
14 Science Mission Directorate.

15 (5) SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH
16 AND SERVICES OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
17 STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY.—The term “sci-
18 entific and technical research and services of the Na-
19 tional Institute of Standards and Technology”
20 means the appropriations accounts that support the
21 various institutes, offices, and centers that make up
22 the National Institute of Standards and Technology
23 scientific and technical research and services.

24 (d) EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS FROM
25 SEQUESTRATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 255(g)(1)(A) of the
2 Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control
3 Act (2 U.S.C. 905(g)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting
4 after “Advances to the Unemployment Trust Fund
5 and Other Funds (16–0327–0–1–600).” the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “Appropriations under the American
8 Innovation Act.”.

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

14 (e) BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—

15 (1) STATUTORY PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The
16 budgetary effects of this section shall not be entered
17 on either PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to
18 section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of
19 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(d)).

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

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