

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2447

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for an NIH research strategic plan.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 2015

Mr. HARRIS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for an NIH research strategic plan.

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. NIH RESEARCH STRATEGIC PLAN.**

4 Section 402 of the Public Health Service Act (42
5 U.S.C. 282) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b), by amending paragraph
7 (5) to read as follows:

8 “(5) shall ensure that scientifically based stra-
9 tegic planning is implemented in support of research
10 priorities as determined by the agencies of the Na-

1 tional Institutes of Health, including through devel-
2 opment, use, and updating of the research strategic
3 plan under subsection (m);” and

4 (2) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(m) RESEARCH STRATEGIC PLAN.—

6 “(1) FIVE-YEAR PLANS FOR BIOMEDICAL RE-
7 SEARCH STRATEGY.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For each successive
9 five-year period beginning with the period of fis-
10 cal years 2016 through 2020, the Director of
11 NIH, in consultation with the entities described
12 in subparagraph (B), shall develop and main-
13 tain a biomedical research strategic plan.

14 “(B) ENTITIES DESCRIBED.—The entities
15 described in this subparagraph are the directors
16 of the national research institutes and national
17 centers, researchers, patient advocacy groups,
18 and industry leaders.

19 “(2) USE OF PLAN.—The Director of NIH and
20 the directors of the national research institutes and
21 national centers shall use the strategic plan—

22 “(A) to identify research opportunities;

23 and

24 “(B) to develop individual strategic plans
25 for the research activities of each of the na-

1 tional research institutes and national centers
2 that—

3 “(i) have a common template; and

4 “(ii) identify strategic focus areas in
5 which the resources of the national re-
6 search institutes and national centers can
7 best contribute to the goal of expanding
8 knowledge on human health in the United
9 States through biomedical research.

10 “(3) CONTENTS OF PLANS.—

11 “(A) STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS.—The stra-
12 tegic focus areas identified pursuant to para-
13 graph (2)(B) shall—

14 “(i) be identified in a manner that—

15 “(I) considers the return on in-
16 vestment to the United States public
17 through the investments of the Na-
18 tional Institutes of Health in bio-
19 medical research; and

20 “(II) contributes to expanding
21 knowledge to improve the United
22 States public’s health through bio-
23 medical research; and

24 “(ii) include overarching and trans-
25 National Institutes of Health strategic

1 focus areas, to be known as Mission Pri-
2 ority Focus Areas, which best serve the
3 goals of preventing or eliminating the bur-
4 den of a disease or condition and scientif-
5 ically merit enhanced and focused research
6 over the next 5 years.

7 “(B) RARE AND PEDIATRIC DISEASES AND
8 CONDITIONS.—In developing and maintaining a
9 strategic plan under this subsection, the Direc-
10 tor of NIH shall ensure that rare and pediatric
11 diseases and conditions remain a priority.

12 “(4) INITIAL PLAN.—Not later than 270 days
13 after the date of enactment of this subsection, the
14 Director of NIH and the directors of the national re-
15 search institutes and national centers shall—

16 “(A) complete the initial strategic plan re-
17 quired by paragraphs (1) and (2); and

18 “(B) make such initial strategic plan pub-
19 licly available on the website of the National In-
20 stitutes of Health.

21 “(5) REVIEW; UPDATES.—

22 “(A) PROGRESS REVIEWS.—Not less than
23 annually, the Director of NIH, in consultation
24 with the directors of the national research insti-
25 tutes and national centers, shall conduct

1 progress reviews for each strategic focus area
2 identified under paragraph (2)(B).

3 “(B) UPDATES.—Not later than the end of
4 the 5-year period covered by the initial strategic
5 plan under this subsection, and every 5 years
6 thereafter, the Director of NIH, in consultation
7 with the directors of the national research insti-
8 tutes and national centers, stakeholders in the
9 scientific field, advocates, and the public at
10 large, shall—

11 “(i) conduct a review of the plan, in-
12 cluding each strategic focus area identified
13 under paragraph (2)(B); and

14 “(ii) update such plan in accordance
15 with this section.”.

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