



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **The Science Coalition Comments on President Obama's FY 2016 Budget Proposal**

*Amanda Arnold, 2015 president of The Science Coalition, made the following statement:*

The Science Coalition is pleased that the President's proposed budget blueprint moves beyond the arbitrary cuts of sequestration and provides an overall boost in funding for research and development for FY 2016. The need to end sequestration is something that both the defense and research communities have strongly urged and we are glad the President has listened. We recognize that providing strong, stable and increased funding for scientific research is difficult given fiscal challenges, but investment in research and discovery produces proven results.

Other [nations](#), including China and South Korea, are investing aggressively in research and discovery because they have seen how our economy benefitted from these investments. Continued cuts to research threaten our role as the world's innovation leader. Federal funding for research has been on a downward trajectory for the past [decade](#) and the budget caps and sequestration, if left in place, will extend this trend into the next decade by severely limiting discretionary [spending](#). This dangerous approach threatens a generation of discovery and innovation that would otherwise help fuel our economy and address the many challenges our nation faces, from cybersecurity to cancer. Reduced funding for research contributes to an [innovation deficit](#) – the gap between needed and actual federal investments in research and discovery – that threatens our global competitiveness.

Spending on research and discovery needs to be a top federal priority. We urge Congress and the White House to work together to find a pathway to sustainable, long-term investments that will allow America to maintain our innovative edge, create meaningful jobs and realize economic growth.

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