



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 11, 2013

Contact: Lauren Pulte
202-429-6875
lpulte@gga.com

The Science Coalition Comments on the Bipartisan Budget Agreement Act of 2013

Tim Leshan, 2013 president of The Science Coalition, made the following statement:

The Bipartisan Budget Agreement Act of 2013 unveiled last night is a positive step forward in mitigating some of the harm that is being caused by sequestration's indiscriminate spending cuts. We applaud Senator Murray and Congressman Ryan for their diligence in forging a bipartisan, bicameral agreement and we urge their colleagues in the House and the Senate to move swiftly to approve the deal.

While the proposed agreement provides only partial and temporary relief from the indiscriminate and damaging spending cuts, it does provide important time for Congress to work toward a more lasting solution to the nation's fiscal challenges. The Science Coalition has been urging Congress to end sequestration and we will continue to push Congress to take the steps necessary to reduce our budget deficit while allowing for robust investment in scientific research and education, which is essential to our long-term economic well-being as well as to our health and national security. This agreement is an important step in the right direction.

A recent report by The Science Coalition illustrates how government investment in scientific research drives the economy. [Sparkling Economic Growth 2.0](#) identifies [100 companies](#) that were created as a result of federally funded university research. Today these companies are bringing transformational innovations to market, creating thousands of jobs and contributing to local economies across the country. Yet, were it not for the federal investment in scientific research that occurred years and even decades ago, these companies and their products and services, jobs and economic growth likely would not exist today. If sequestration continues, the nation will lose out on a generation of innovative companies, as well as all of the other benefits that flow from scientific research.

A [survey](#) conducted at the close of the federal fiscal year of the members of The Science Coalition, the Association of American Universities and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, revealed that sequestration was having a significant, negative impact on America's research enterprise. [These include](#) the reduction of new federal research grants and delayed research projects, as well as position reductions and layoffs among other things. The survey serves as a bellwether of the devastating impact that sustained cuts to research and higher education will have on the economy and the United States' role as a global innovation leader.

For more information on scientific research and sequestration, visit www.ScienceWorksForUS.org.

###

The Science Coalition is a non-profit, nonpartisan organization of the nation's leading public and private research universities. It is dedicated to sustaining strong federal funding of basic scientific research as a means to stimulate the economy, spur innovation and drive America's global competitiveness. Learn more at www.sciencecoalition.org.