

NIH Reform Updates

*SMRB Meeting
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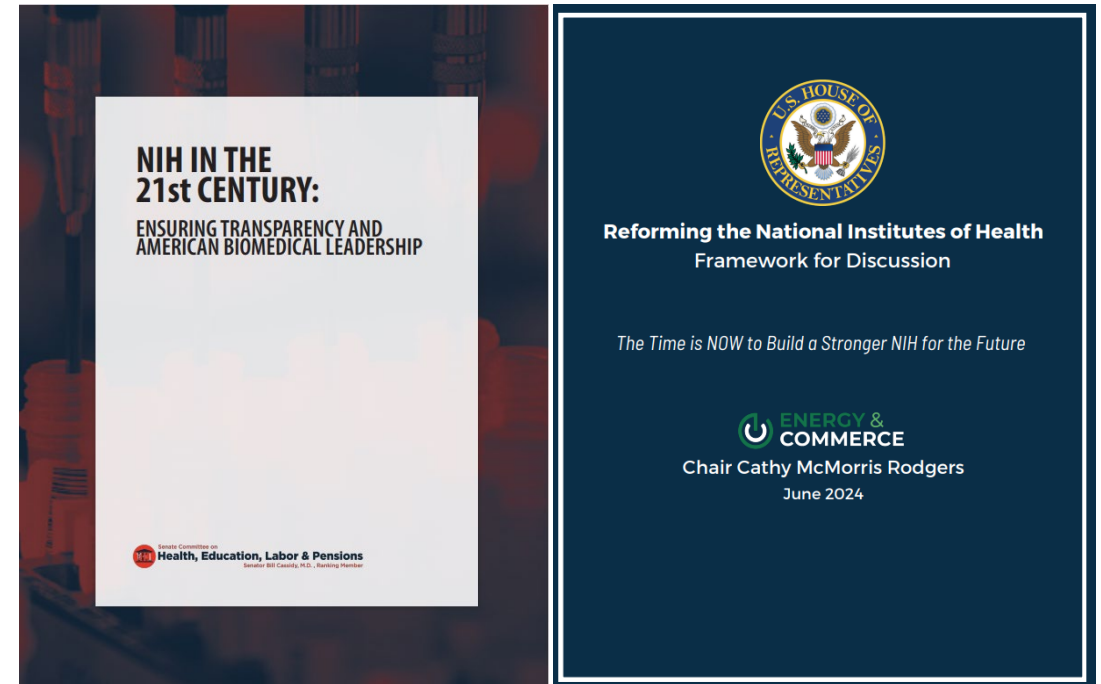


A Brief History of NIH Reauthorizations

- 21st Century Cures was the last NIH authorization for appropriations (2016)
 - This authorization expired in FY 2020
 - Provided multiyear funding (a total of \$4.8 billion) to four highly innovative scientific initiatives:
 - All of Us program
 - Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) initiative
 - The Cancer Moonshot
 - The Regenerative Medicine Innovation Project
- NIH Reform Act of 2006
 - Authorized the establishment of the SMRB

NIH Reform Proposals in Congress

- **NIH in the 21st Century: Ensuring Transparency and American Biomedical Leadership**
 - RFI issued September 29, 2023, by Senate HELP Committee Ranking Member Cassidy
- **Reforming the NIH: Framework for Discussion**
 - Released June 14, 2024, by House Energy and Commerce Chair McMorris Rodgers
- **FY25 House Appropriations Bill**
 - June 26, 2024, included by Labor-HHS Subcommittee Chairman Robert Aderholt



Common Themes Calling for Reform

- Despite bipartisan legislative successes and consistent, annual investment in NIH, opportunities remain to improve NIH's operations to better support the U.S. biomedical research enterprise.
- NIH reauthorization/reform is overdue.

Key Areas of Proposed Reform

- Structural
- Leadership
- Policy/grant
- Funding

Reforming the NIH: Framework for Discussion

■ Structural Reform

- Consolidates 27 ICs into 15
 - Proposed consolidations:
 - **NHLBI, NIAMS, NIDDK** → National Institute on Body Systems Research
 - **NIDCR, NINDS, NEI** → National Institute on Neuroscience and Brain Research
 - **NIGMS, NHGRI, NLM** → National Institute of General Medical Sciences
 - **NICHD, NIDCD** → National Institute for Disability Related Research
 - **NIAA, NIDA** → National Institute on Substance Use
 - **NIEHS, NIMHD, NCCIH, NINR, FIC** → National Institute on Health Science Research
 - **NCATS, NIBIB, ARPA-H, Common Fund** → National Institute on Innovation and Advanced Research
 - This proposal splits **NIAID** into the National Institute on Infectious Diseases and the National Institute on the Immune System and Arthritis
 - Proposal renames **NIA** to the National Institute on Dementia

Reforming the NIH: Framework for Discussion

■ Mission and Leadership Reform

- Initiate and complete a comprehensive review of the NIH
- Introduce term limits for IC leadership
- Eliminate silos between ICs
- Enforce financial disclosure and transparency requirements
- Address misconduct and expect accountability
- Improve transparency from partners

■ Funding Reform

- Restore Congress's role in directing funding
- Reexamine indirect costs
- Prevent waste and fraud

Reforming the NIH: Framework for Discussion

■ Policy/Grant Reform

- Research must be credible, reliable, and timely
- Oversight of risky research
- Demand accountability from grantees
- Empower agencies to suspend grants
- Mandate foreign grant reporting
- Prevent conflicts of interest
- Ensure appropriate oversight of animal research
- Ensure appropriate oversight of harassment

What's next?

- NIH looks forward to engaging with Congress and partners about NIH reform.
- The new SMRB provides an opportunity for continued review of NIH policy. We look forward to the Board's recommendations.