

## as a Means to Strengthen the Nation's Health and Our National Economy

### Biomedical Research Saves Lives

- The death rates for heart disease and stroke have dropped more than 60 percent since 1940.
- Through a better understanding of the underlying molecular causes of cancer, U.S. cancer death rates are decreasing by 1 percent each year. With each 1 percent decline in cancer deaths, the U.S. saves \$500 billion in medical costs.<sup>1</sup>
- NIH-funded researchers recently discovered a super-antibody that protects against several subtypes of influenza. This may reduce the need for annual vaccinations and be the key to protecting millions from flu outbreaks.<sup>1</sup>

### The Role of Federal Investment in Biomedical Research

- Federal funding for research helps support private, university and federal laboratory research.
- Federal funds provide for more than 60 percent of R&D work performed by colleges and universities.
- The federal government invested about \$45 billion, or 1.2 percent of GDP, in biomedical research in 2011.<sup>2</sup>

### Examples of Biomedical Research's Role in the Economy

- By leveraging investment in federal laboratories, universities and industry R&D, our nation is able to produce high-value, technologically advanced products that the rest of the world highly values.
- The American pharmaceutical industry directly employs 674,000 people, supports more than 4 million jobs and contributes \$917 billion to U.S. GDP annually.<sup>3</sup>

### Innovation as an Economic Stimulation

- Investment in research will modernize our nation's research laboratories and facilities, spur innovation, and provide an immediate boost in employment for our nation's workforce.
- As an example, the federal government invested roughly \$4 billion in the Human Genome Project. The benefits of this project have generated nearly \$800 billion in economic activity in the 10 years since the project officially ended.<sup>4</sup>

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1 <http://www.nih.gov/about/impact/index.htm>

2 Research!America. 2011 U.S. Investment in Health Research. 2012.

3 Battelle Technology Partnership Practice. The U.S. Biopharmaceuticals Sector: Economic Contribution to the Nation. 2011.

4 Battelle Technology Partnership Practice. Economic Impact of the Human Genome Project. 2011.