

COMMITTEE ON
**SCIENCE, SPACE, AND
TECHNOLOGY**
CHAIRMAN LAMAR SMITH



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Media Contacts: Kim Smith Hicks, Zachary Kurz
(202) 225-6371

**Statement of Chairman Lamar Smith (R-Texas)
Hearing on Providing the Tools for Scientific Discovery and Basic Energy Research: The
Department of Energy Science Mission**

Chairman Smith: The Department of Energy (DOE) at its core is a science agency. Its science mission is carried out through its basic research activities executed by the Office of Science. This research provides the foundation for innovation that drives long-term economic growth and serves as a valuable investment in America's future.

The impact of DOE basic research activities is evident in our daily lives. Thousands of lives have been saved by DOE-sponsored research that developed MRIs and non-invasive cancer detection methods. Technological revolutions, such as smaller, faster computer processors and breakthrough discoveries in energy storage, can be traced to DOE basic research programs.

Today's hearing will focus on draft legislation titled "Enabling Innovation for Science, Technology, and Energy in America Act" or EINSTEIN America Act.

The EINSTEIN America Act supports high-impact research that promotes economic innovation and revolutionary scientific research, such as the development of x-ray light sources and high performance computing programs.

It recognizes the role of discovery science programs, which explore the most fundamental questions about the nature of the universe.

The discussion draft requires the Department of Energy to coordinate with other Federal Agencies to streamline workplace regulations. This reduces burdensome red tape and provides the National Labs flexibility to more effectively and efficiently execute the Department's mission.

This ensures that American taxpayer dollars are better utilized and enables Labs to do more with less. The EINSTEIN America Act prioritizes science activities within the Department. It provides for an almost two percent increase above current spending levels and a one percent increase above the House-passed appropriations level for Fiscal Year 2014.

The discussion draft and today's hearing serve as a starting point in the legislative process. I look forward to the witnesses' testimony and to working with Committee Members to improve and advance this draft bill.

Thank you and I yield back the remainder of my time.

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