

Welcome!



Funding Your Future:

A forum discussing the federal budget
and the importance of science advocacy

Featuring Keynote Speaker:
Rep. John Yarmuth

Friday, August 26th
10:00 am Kornhauser Auditorium

Agenda

10:00 am: Naomi Charalambakis (Graduate Student; Society for Neuroscience Fellow)
"The Federal Budget—How it Works and Why Students Should Care"

10:45 am: Dr. William Guido, Ph.D (Chairman, Anatomical Sciences & Neurobiology Dept.)
"The Importance of Advocacy—a Chairman's Perspective"

11:00 am: Welcome & Introduction, Dr. Jon Klein, (Vice Dean ULSOM)

11:15 am: Keynote Speech w/ Q&A session—Rep. John Yarmuth (KY-03)



Science Policy & Outreach Group (SPOG) at U of L

Join our mailing list, visit our website:

Spog.uofl@gmail.com

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Become Involved. Make Your Voice Heard.



The Federal Budget:

How It Works & Why Students Should Care

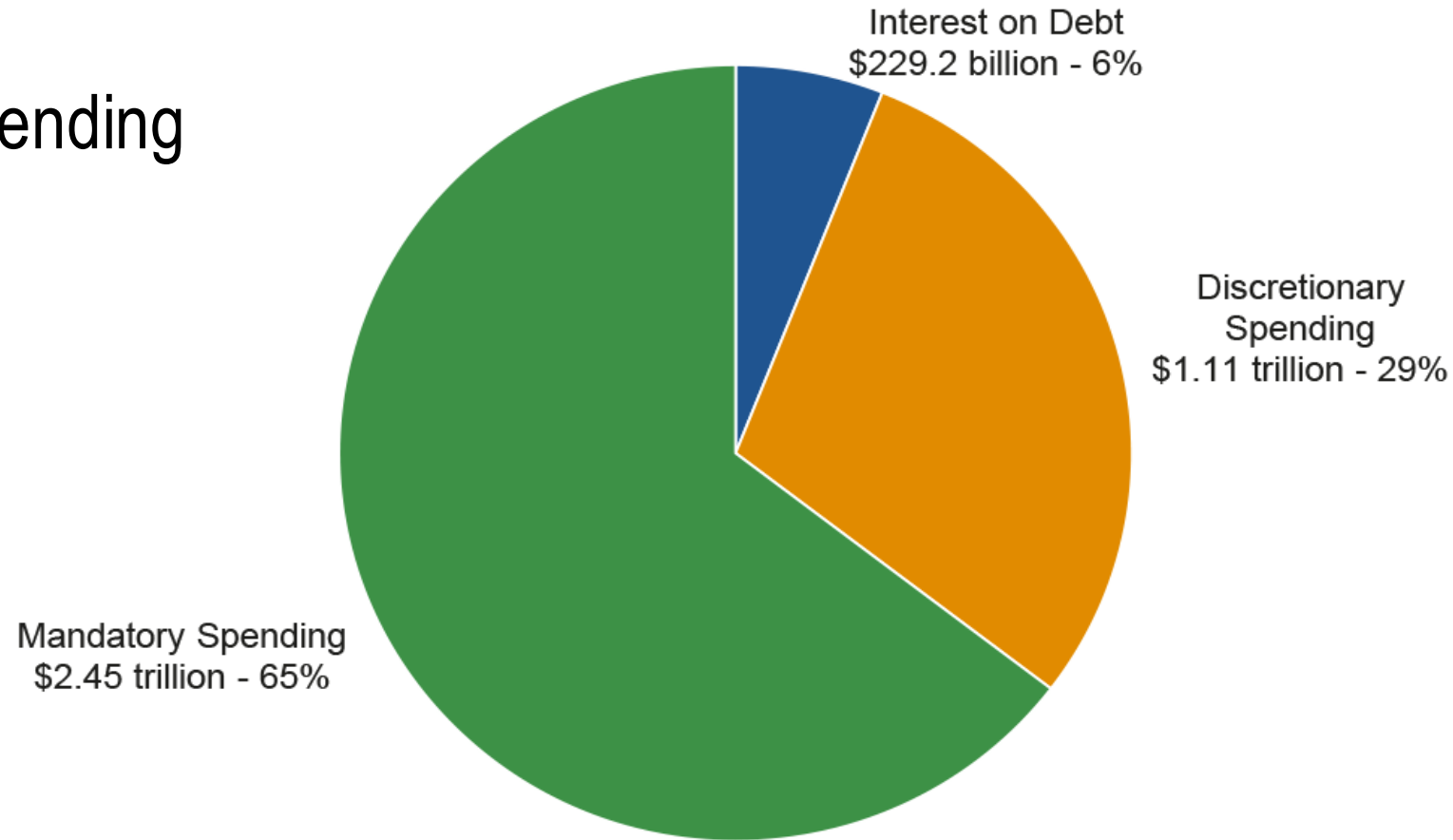


Outline

- Overview of The Federal Budget
 - NIH/NSF
 - Sequestration; budget caps
- The Importance of Student Advocacy
- How You Can Get Involved

- Congress holds the power to set and adjust spending policies
- Federal Budget = Mandatory Spending + Discretionary Spending + Interest
- Mandatory:
 - Medicare
 - Social Security
- Discretionary Spending:
 - Appropriations Bills

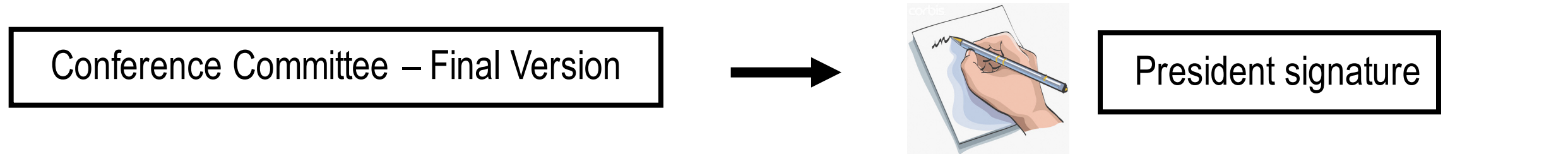
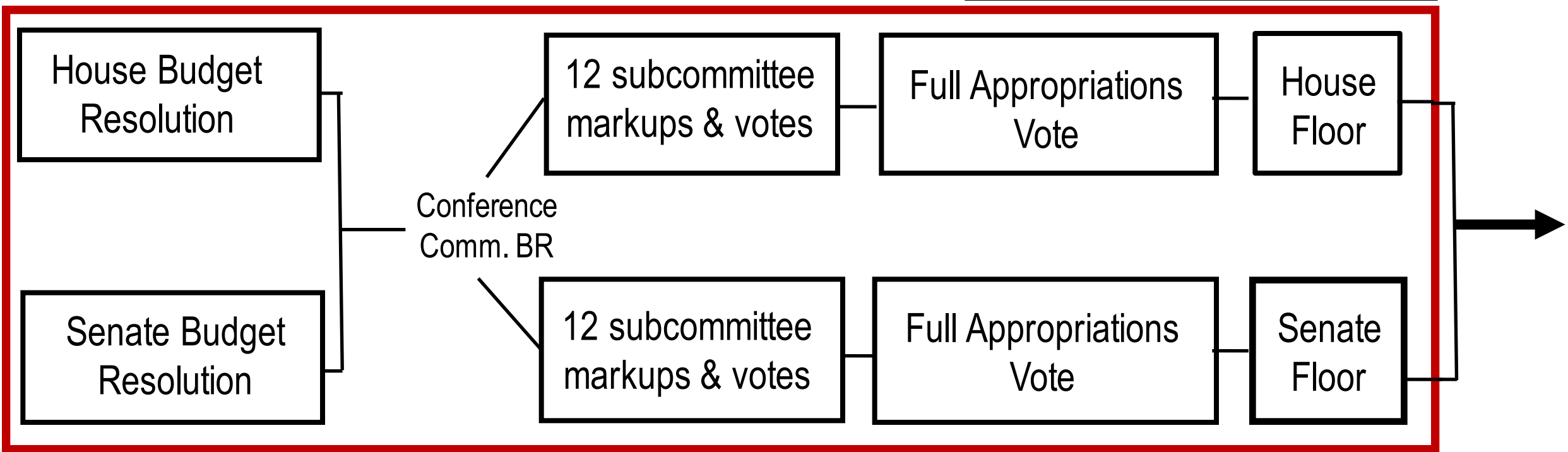
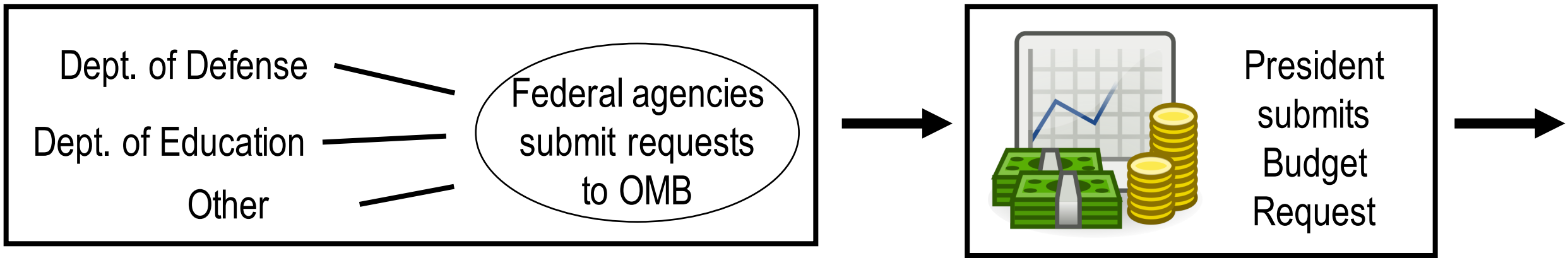
FY 2015 Mandatory and Discretionary Spending and Interest on Federal Debt
(in 2015 Dollars)



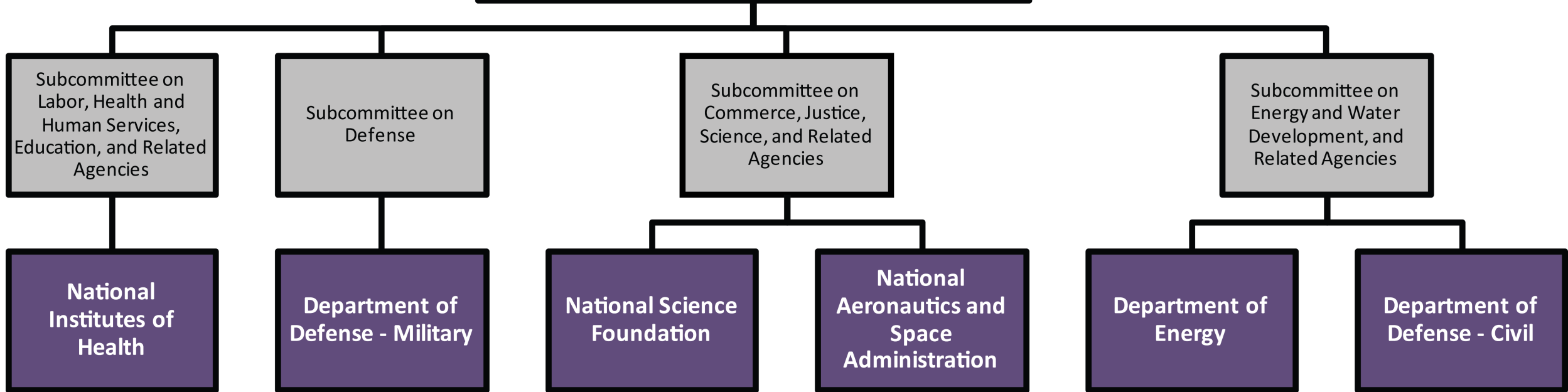
The Budget Cycle – 3 Phases

Planning, Review, Appropriations

Fiscal Year 2017 = October 1st, 2016



House/Senate Committee on Appropriations

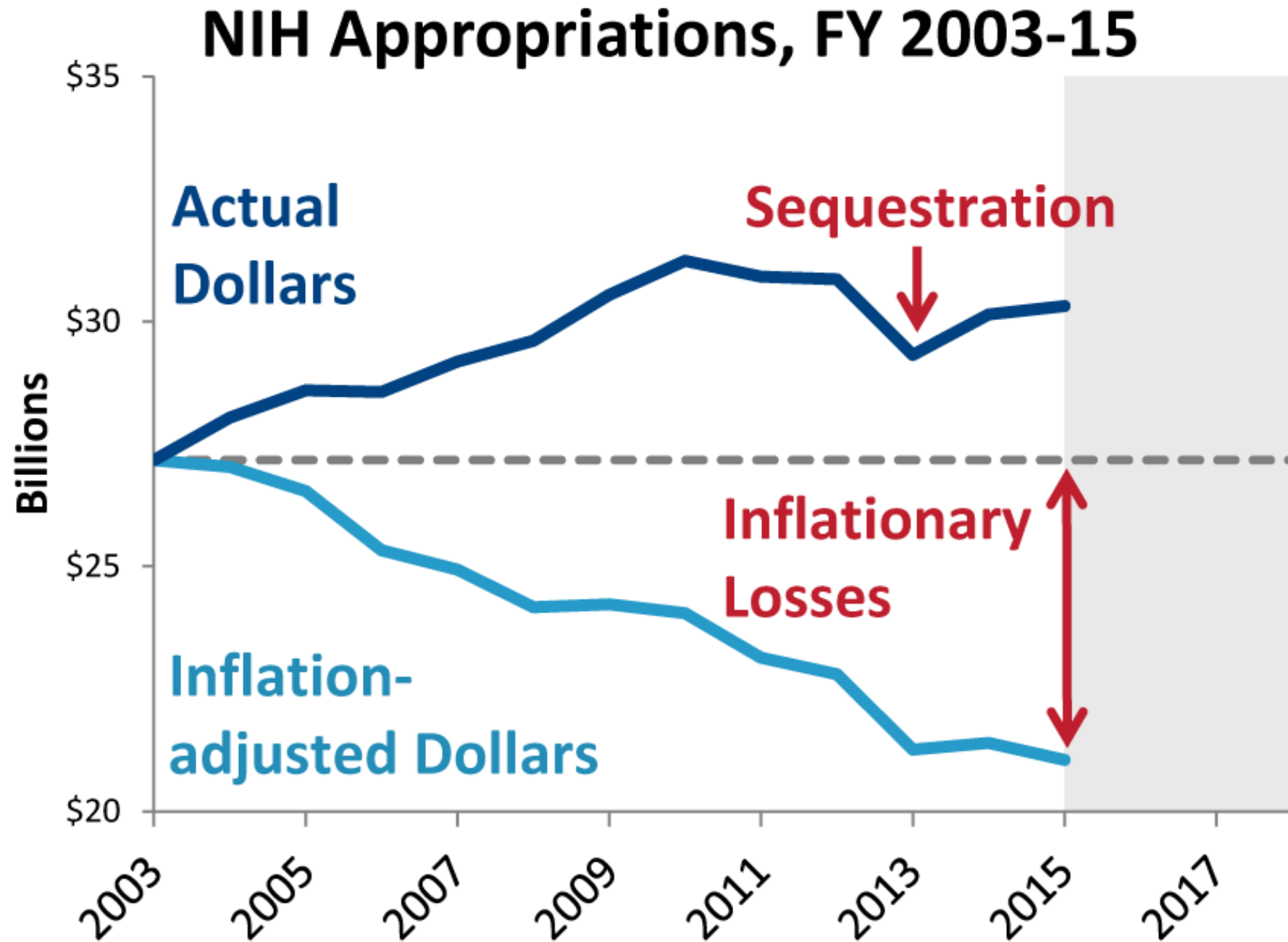


Where We Are Today...

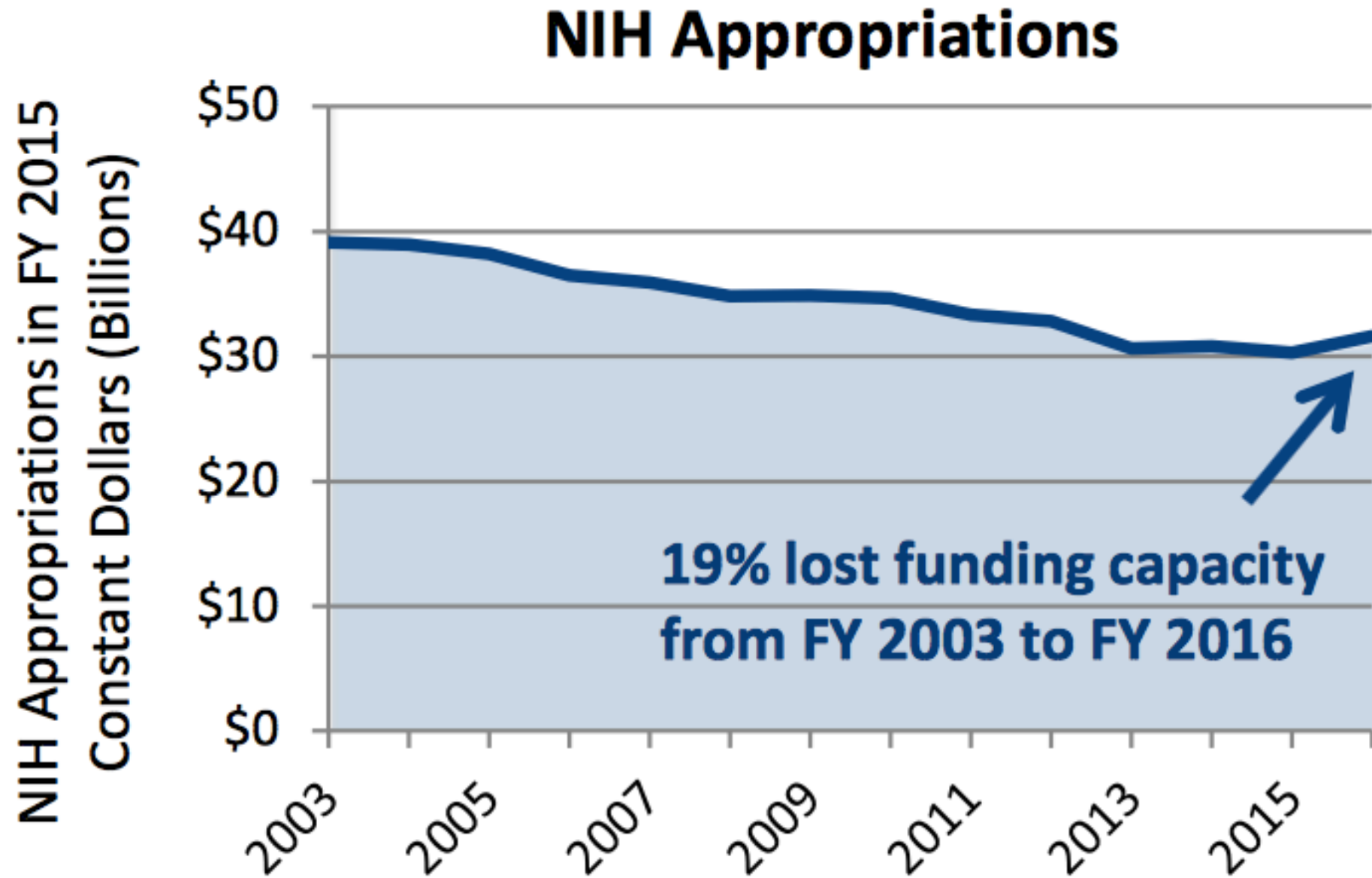
- 0/12 spending bills have been signed by President
- House and Senate Appropriations Committees have approved their own version of all 12 bills
- Few have been approved by either chamber
- Science & Technology funding essentially flat

Since 2003, the NIH has lost 22% of its funding capacity

- Budget cuts
- Sequestration
- Inflation



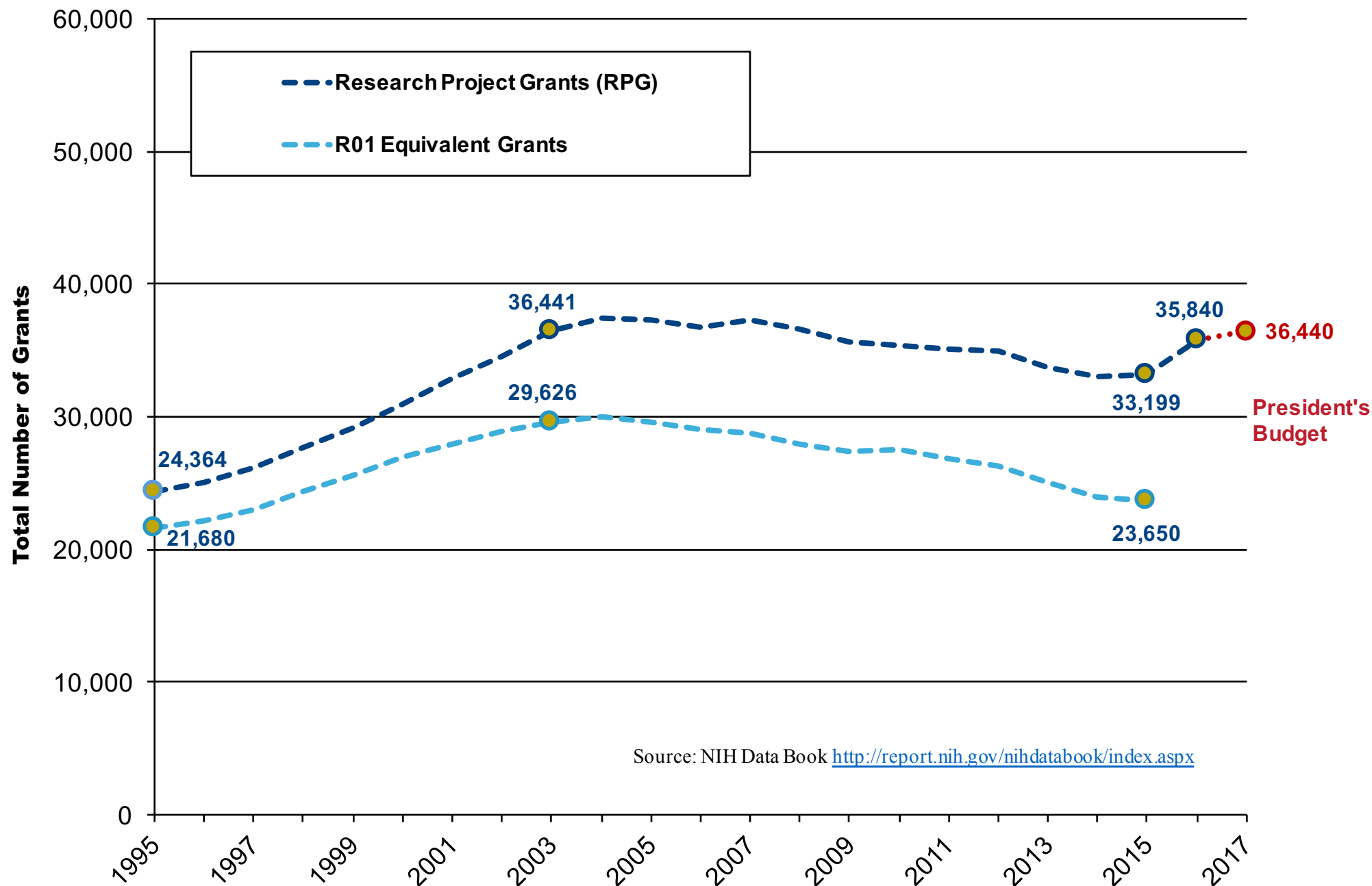
NIH Funding in Kentucky...



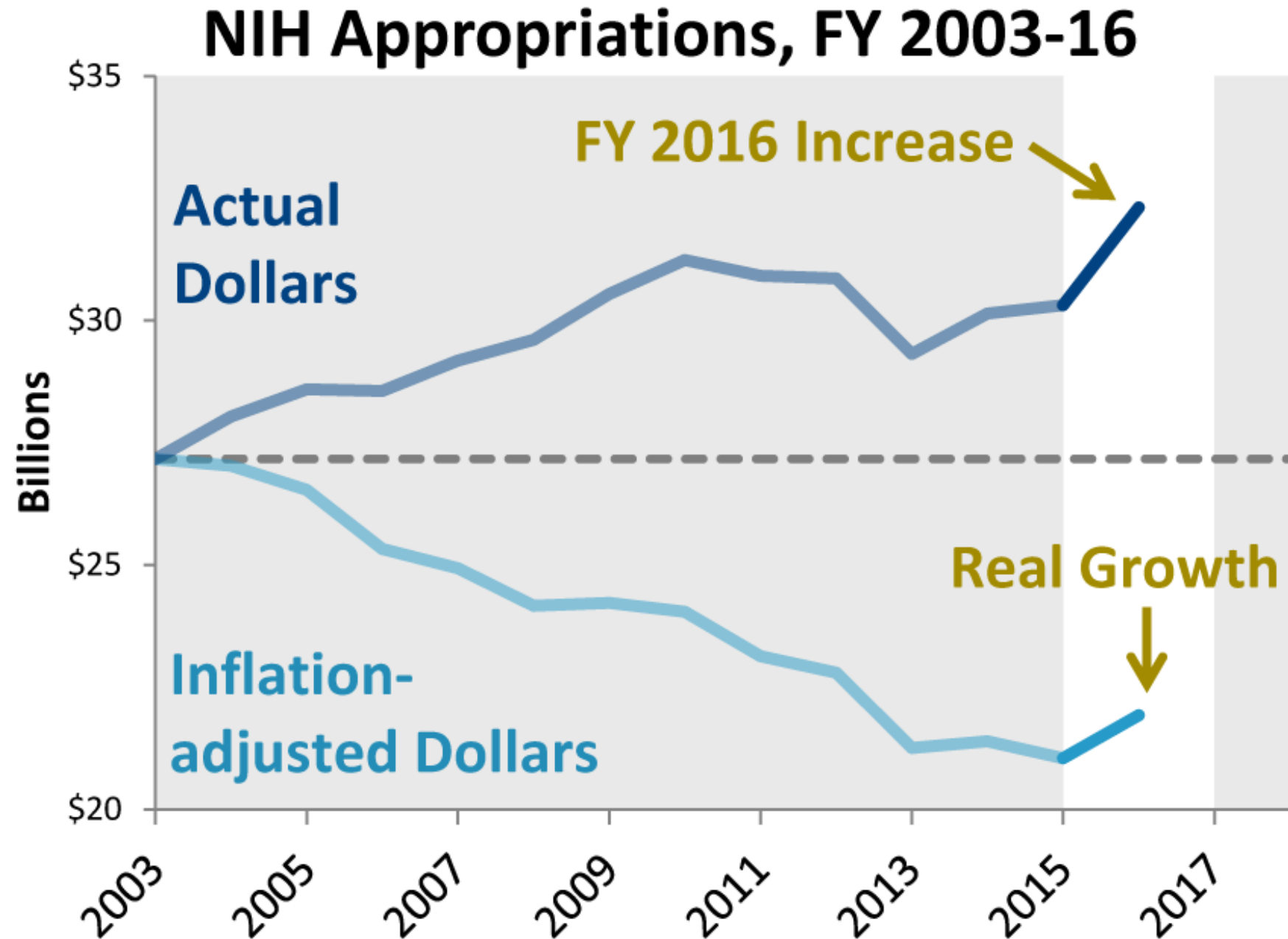
RPGs and R01s take a dive...

5,976 fewer
R01 awards

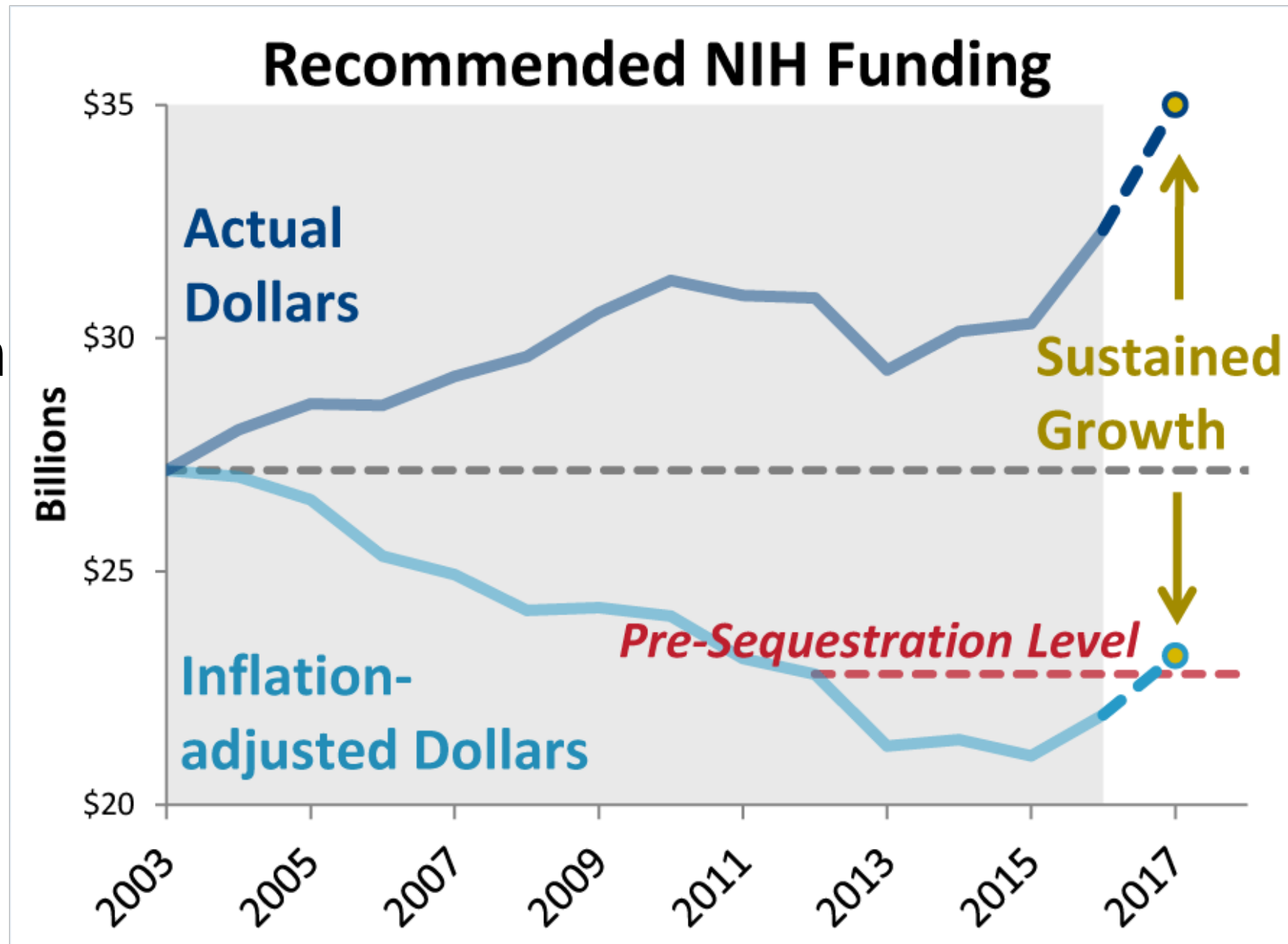
20% drop



- 2016: started seeing change
- NIH budget raised by 5.9%
- Funding levels barely back to levels prior to sequestration



- Need sustained, predictable growth to protect biomedical research
- Reverse losses seen by sequestration
- Maintain progress



A solid red vertical bar is positioned on the far left side of the image, extending from the top to the bottom.

Advocacy

- Education
- Outreach
- Lab tours
- Mentoring
 - High school
 - Science Fair



- Brain Awareness Week
- NanoDays
- Kentucky Science Center

Local Events – Get Involved

- Beer with a Scientist
- Scientific Proofs
- Local Chapter of your Professional Society



- Meeting with Members of Congress
 - Follow-up
- Capitol Hill Days
- Op-Eds
- Stay informed
 - **Advocacy alerts**
 - Write your Legislator



Students must advocate for education

I started graduate school with the inspiration and ambition that I could make a difference in neuroscience. Research was rapidly progressing, techniques were advancing, and translational medicine was evolving. But the more my research developed, the clearer it became just how important federal funding was. Without it, my lab is unable to thrive. My research would remain at a standstill.

For years, the NIH/NSF budget has been underfunded. When adjusted for inflation, the numbers are even more dismal. While the \$2 billion increase for NIH in FY16 is a remarkable step forward, in real dollars the NIH budget remains 20 percent below 2003 levels.

That's when I understood the power of advocacy, and the importance of making my voice heard. With this realization, I co-founded the first student organization at my university that aims to make students, faculty, and general public aware of the policy issues driving the work we do on a daily basis. Recently, our group planned an advocacy day for science fair winners. Each student met with their representative, senator, and even the governor to discuss

their projects, and why the science fair is important to them.

I was struck by how engaged Gov. Matt Bevin was with the kids. He listened intently, asked questions, and encouraged them to "stay curious" because scientific research is the foundation on which Kentucky's future stands. To an outsider, these words hold a refreshing, promising tone. But as I watched the governor squeeze with the kids to snap a quick "selfie" with his phone, I instead felt distressed.

Just months prior, the governor proposed his budget plan, one that poses a serious threat to education if passed. Specifically, the Department of Education will face a \$72 million budget cut over the next two years — a 9 percent drop from current levels. While K-12 funding is exempt, public colleges/universities and pre-schools will be particularly penalized.

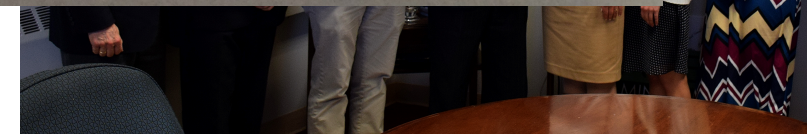
Currently, 50 percent of children entering kindergarten in Kentucky do not have the appropriate academic skills. Clearly, the governor's drastic budget cuts come at a time when Kentucky's young, bright minds — the next generation — are vulnerable. Only

by investing in early education can we ensure Kentucky's economy and productivity remain strong.

Why, then, was the governor providing false hope to these students? It was at that moment I realized the necessity of advocacy — not just on the national level, but also state. Policymakers are shaping the laws that directly affect my future, these students' future. And with that, it is my right as a citizen of the state to voice these concerns and communicate them to my state leaders. More important, it is essential for young students to be exposed to advocacy, that we encourage them to begin a dialogue between their legislators.

Kentucky's budget battle is only a mere example of the larger issue at hand: the gap in communication between young scientists and state/national lawmakers. For research to progress forward, for the public to truly benefit from the advances science and technology is making, all parties must stay actively engaged.

Naomi Charalambakis
University of Louisville
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Louisville 40218



Advocacy Network

Advocacy Network

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Urge your Legislator to Support NIH Research Funding!

Congress is in the process of developing the twelve appropriation bills that will fund our government in 2017 and beyond. After a monumental year for the National Institutes of Health with the agency getting its biggest increase in a decade, Congress is again dragging its feet. It's important constituents hold lawmakers' feet to the fire and remind them that the work they do impacts real people and real jobs. Urge your lawmakers to maintain a strong commitment to health research by allotting \$34.5 billion to fund the NIH research that makes a difference.

Contact your Representatives TODAY and ask them make the case for a strong research funding level for NIH in FY2017.

In order to address your message to the appropriate recipient, we need to identify where you are. Please [look up](#) and use your full nine-digit zip for the best results.

Please enter your zip/postal code:

Subject:

Support Investment in NIH

Your Letter:

As a constituent and a scientist, I urge you to ensure NIH receives a \$34.5 billion base appropriation in FY2017.

Right now, neuroscience research is discovering the foundation for tomorrow's medical treatments, providing hope for millions of Americans who suffer from more than 1,000 neurological disorders.

As the primary federal agency responsible for conducting and supporting neuroscience research, NIH funds research that drives scientific innovation and develops new and better diagnostics, prevention strategies, and more effective



Rep. John Yarmuth
District: KY03

Phone: (202) 225-5401

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First Name*

Last Name*

Email*

Street*

Street 2

City*

State/Province*

Zip/Postal Code*

Submit

Resources



UPDATES ON THE AMA'S WORK



ADVOCACY UPDATE

IN OUR NATION'S CAPITAL, STATES AND COURTHOUSES

“If you think research is expensive...
try disease!”

-- Mary Lasker

American Health Activist



Thank You!

- E-mail: nechar01@louisville.edu
- SPOG – spog.uofl@gmail.com; Facebook; Twitter
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