



Partnership to Fight  
Infectious Disease

# The PASTEUR Act

## The Pioneering Antimicrobial Subscriptions To End Upsurging Resistance Act



**The PASTEUR Act** seeks to encourage innovative drug development, improve the appropriate use of antibiotics and ensure domestic availability of critical need antimicrobial medicines to prevent antimicrobial resistance (AMR) from becoming the next global pandemic.

**The PASTEUR Act** would establish an innovative payment contract where the federal government invests in highly novel antibiotics and antifungals through installment payments in exchange for free access to developers' drugs in government programs once available. This **encourages much-needed investment and ensures the nation's health care system is prepared** to treat the increasing number of antibiotic- and antifungal-resistant infections.

### The PASTEUR Act Would:



#### Ensure a Financial Return

The bill would set up subscription model payment contracts to make investments in the development and delivery of highly novel antibiotic and antifungal medications that have been designated critical need antimicrobials. Provisions in the bill require that these investments only go to highly novel drugs or drug classes that meet the favored characteristics established by the program.



#### Establish Terms & Conditions Beneficial for U.S. Pandemic Preparedness and Response

The bill utilizes an investment strategy that has successfully been used to fund pandemic prevention and public health priorities of the U.S. government. First, the subscription payments are a secure investment for the U.S. as only FDA-approved medicines can receive payments. Second, the bill allows the federal government to reap the rewards of its investment in a successful FDA-approved product by ensuring patients covered by federal programs have access to these drugs for free. Third, the bill contains provisions to ensure sufficient supply and a reliable supply chain in the United States.



#### Promote Proper Use of Antibiotics to Help Reduce Resistance

Increasing the arsenal of novel antimicrobial medicines alone will not be enough to get ahead of the current threats. This bill includes measures to improve the proper use of antibiotics, including promoting judicious prescribing using appropriate diagnostic tools, and monitoring resistance patterns through the CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network and other programs.

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## The Urgency for the PASTEUR Act is Mounting...

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**Secretary Xavier Becerra, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:**



It's important to address AMR because "for many of us it's not so much the first punch. It's the second punch that gets the communities in America. ... The second punch gets those who are least prepared, the most vulnerable, and the most underserved."

<https://www.axios.com/2022/09/09/superbug-antibiotic-resistance-pandemic>

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**Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, General Director, World Health Organization:**



"The COVID-19 pandemic has been a seismic shock to the world, but we also know that the next pandemic is a matter of when, not if."

<https://www.who.int/news/item/09-09-2022-new-fund-for-pandemic-prevention--preparedness-and-response-formally-established>

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**Michael Craig, Senior Advisor for Antibiotic Resistance, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:**



"The COVID-19 pandemic has unmistakably shown us that antimicrobial resistance will not stop if we let down our guard; there is no time to waste."

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2022/s0712-Antimicrobial-Resistance.html>

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**Dr. Rochelle Walensky, Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:**



[In 2020] "we saw a significant increase in antimicrobial use, difficulty in following infection prevention and control guidance, and a resulting increase in healthcare-associated, antimicrobial-resistant infections in U.S. hospitals."

<https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/3556395-pandemic-led-to-surge-in-antibiotic-resistant-superbugs-cdc-says/>

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**U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet, (D-CO):**



"After witnessing the COVID-19 pandemic, it has never been more clear that we need to invest in research to prepare for the next public health crisis. Infectious disease experts are already sounding alarms, and they need resources to prepare for the threat that antimicrobial resistance infections pose. With our bipartisan PASTEUR Act, we have the chance to not only learn from the mistakes we have made up to this point, but to invest in tools to better prepare for the future."

<https://www.bennet.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2021/6/bennet-young-doyle-ferguson-introduce-pasteur-act-to-fight-antimicrobial-resistance>

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**U.S. Sen. Todd Young, (R-IN):**



"Americans understand – now more than ever – that we must take every reasonable and responsible measure to prevent future public health crises. Antimicrobial resistance has become a growing crisis in recent years. Market failures have resulted in a lack of needed research and development in this field which is a threat to public health. That's why I'm proud to reintroduce our Pioneering Antimicrobial Subscriptions to End Upsurging Resistance (PASTEUR) Act to incentivize development of new antibiotics."

<https://www.bennet.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2021/6/bennet-young-doyle-ferguson-introduce-pasteur-act-to-fight-antimicrobial-resistance>

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**U.S. Rep. Mike Doyle, (D-PA):**



"Tens of thousands of Americans die each year from antimicrobial-resistant infections. Infectious disease experts agree that antimicrobial resistance is an urgent public health threat that requires a comprehensive, effective solution now. The PASTEUR Act will help scientists and researchers bring better antimicrobials to market, and it will help hospitals and doctors ensure these drugs are used properly."

<https://www.bennet.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2021/6/bennet-young-doyle-ferguson-introduce-pasteur-act-to-fight-antimicrobial-resistance>

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**U.S. Rep. Drew Ferguson, (R-GA):**



"Antimicrobial resistance is a looming public health and national security crisis that may one day be our next pandemic if left unaddressed. Applying the lessons learned from COVID by investing in pandemic preparedness now will save lives later, which is why I am so proud to be a part of this bipartisan, bicameral effort [PASTEUR Act]. We must bring together the unique capabilities and resources of the public and private sectors to solve the market failures impeding the development of new lines of antibiotics."

<https://www.bennet.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2021/6/bennet-young-doyle-ferguson-introduce-pasteur-act-to-fight-antimicrobial-resistance>