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March 31, 2014

The Honorable Richard Durbin
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Durbin,

On behalf of Boston University (BU), I would like to thank you for your support of biomedical research and leadership in introducing the American Cures Act. BU supports this bill, which would provide much needed sustained and predictable funding increases for the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Defense Health Program, and Veterans Medical and Prosthetics Research Program.

BU faculty, students and researchers are dedicated to developing new and innovative advances in biomedical research. Your proposal recognizes that the failure to maintain the federal investment in medical research, most notably a decrease of more than 22 percent in the NIH budget over the past decade after adjusting for inflation, squanders invaluable scientific opportunities, threatens medical progress and continued improvements in our nation's health, and jeopardizes our nation's economic vitality.

We appreciate your steadfast support for the promise of medical research, which provides hope to the millions of Americans who suffer with disease and disability, by introducing the American Cures Act. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karen H. Antman".

Karen H. Antman, M.D.
Provost, Boston University Medical Campus
Dean, School of Medicine