Animal Health research funding through the Iowa Livestock Health Advisory Council has not kept pace with Iowa’s growing $15-billion animal-agriculture industry.

*Source: USDA Economic Research Service Farm Income and Wealth Statistics*
ILHAC is a cooperative effort between Iowa livestock industry stakeholders, the State of Iowa and the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

ILHAC was created in 1977 to strengthen Iowa’s animal-agriculture industry. Since then, ILHAC funding has decreased 14% whereas the value of Iowa animal agriculture has increased almost 400%.

Only 1 in 5 proposals submitted to ILHAC are funded due to diminishing funding levels.

ILHAC is funded through Education Appropriations. This line item provides critically needed “seed money” resulting in an additional $10 million in externally funded research dollars to the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine over the past decade for high-impact, producer-prioritized research, including emerging livestock diseases.

ILHAC funds are applied to research projects that advance knowledge of animal health, food safety and animal well-being in Iowa livestock.

Recently funded projects include studying ways to better prevent and control PED and PRRS in pigs; *E.coli* and *Clostridium spp* in poultry; and lameness, respiratory disease, and pinkeye in beef and dairy cattle.

Increasing Iowa Livestock Health Advisory Council funding by $3,457 is necessary to continue current and begin new health, well-being and food safety research benefitting Iowans and the state’s livestock industry.

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