

# The Oregonian

## Readers respond: Support strong science funding

President Joe Biden's recently released fiscal year 2025 budget calls for increased funding of scientific enterprises. I urge Oregon Sens. Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden to support the spending plan, ensuring our state helps keep the nation positioned as a technology leader.

As a physics doctoral graduate and instructor, my research has furthered the understanding of microscopy and microbial processes. This work enhances knowledge in fields such as healthcare and the environment. I also teach students who will join the STEM workforce and make significant contributions of their own.

To continue this work, we need our senators to support strong funding for the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Energy's Office of Science. All of these institutions fund research that has led to life-changing innovations, including the MRI.

Federal science funding can also be traced to the [semiconductor industry, which is crucial to Oregon's business economy](#). The bipartisan [CHIPS and Science Act](#) – legislation that maintains our country's competitiveness in science and technology – is also key to our business economy. We need our senators to support the president's budget to help fully realize the impact of this law.

I commend Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek for doing her part by signing [Senate Bill 4](#) last year to strengthen Oregon's semiconductor industry. I urge our senators to do the same by supporting the president's budget, maintaining our nation as a global economic leader.

*Jacqueline Acres, Beaverton*