**Sample Letter to the Editor**

Your contact information

Date

Dear Editor (or writer of the article),

The recent article on the budget discussed many of the impacts that reduced government funding would have on individuals and the economy. However, it didn’t mention research.  Reduced funding for federally funded research affects us here in [location] because our local economy is closely tied to [university/high-tech companies, other].

Explain the connection between research and the local community and economy.

Beyond the immediate economic benefits, we are also affected by the missed opportunities that result from a lack of research funding. When the federal government invests in research, discoveries are made with profound implications for our health, safety and quality of life. Life-saving vaccines, the laser, MRI, touchscreens, GPS and the Internet are just of few of the products of past federal investment in research.  While we don’t know what the next great discoveries will bring, we do know that without strong and consistent federal funding for science these discoveries – and all the benefits that come with them – won’t be made in the United States.

If America wants to maintain our innovative edge, create meaningful jobs and realize economic growth, then we must make funding for scientific research a national priority. It is essential that Congress work toward a long-term plan to reduce our budget deficits without undermining wise and impactful investments such as federally-funded research that hold the key to our future.  We must do this before it’s too late.

Sincerely,

Your name, affiliation