



August 21, 2025

The Honorable Mike Braun
Governor of the State of Indiana
200 W. Washington St., Rm. 206
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Governor Braun,

The American Political Science Association (APSA) is writing to express deep concern over proposed reductions of programs at public institutions of higher education in the state of Indiana. It has come to our attention that there are plans to eliminate or merge more than 400 undergraduate and graduate degree programs at Indiana public universities. According to a list publicly provided by the [Indiana Higher Education Commission](#), plans include the termination of programs in political science, public policy, public administration, and several other adjacent programs in the social sciences and humanities. These reductions appear to be the direct results of higher education provisions included in the recently passed biennial budget ([H.B. 1001](#)), which sets minimums on the number of graduating students each degree program must produce or face reduction or elimination unless university leaders request an exemption. It is also apparent that these reductions are the result of university leaders opting to not request termination exemption for programs as is allowable under the law and were initiated largely without the consultation of impacted faculty.

APSA is concerned that the reductions and mergers of this scale will weaken the overall learning experience in Indiana's state universities, as well as weaken research and leave large gaps in policy-relevant public knowledge. The reduced access to political science, public policy, and public administration programs will shrink the pool of graduates available and academically prepared to serve in city, county, and state-level government. A likely consequence is that Hoosiers interested in these topics may leave the state altogether to pursue higher education. APSA is aware that financial considerations are an important component of these decisions, and we understand that these decisions may have been made to alleviate state budget constraints. Despite this, cuts to academic programs in the social sciences and humanities are a short-sighted solution to hardship and would needlessly harm higher education and the future workforce in the state of Indiana for years to come. These investments have been, and will continue to be, essential to Indiana's current and future prosperity.

We call on your administration to work with university administrators to prevent the imminent closure of political science, public policy and public administration majors and programs at public universities and colleges in Indiana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Taeku Lee'.

Taeku Lee,
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Warren'.

Mark Warren,
Past President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan C Stokes'.

Susan Stokes,
President-elect

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kimberly A. Mealy'.

Kimberly A. Mealy,
Executive Director