

LinkedIn – May 9, 2025

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The President's proposed drastic budget cuts to the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and other crucial research agencies pose a grave threat to America's leadership in science and technology. These dramatic reductions would cripple the groundbreaking research that drives American innovation and our competitive edge, while also jeopardizing both the current and future scientific workforce. Indeed, the world-class scientific workforce and technological infrastructure that have fueled our economy, improved public health, and strengthened education for nearly a century now stand at serious risk.

As Executive Director of the American Statistical Association, I am particularly alarmed by the devastating long-term consequences these cuts would have on the nation's data infrastructure and statistical capabilities. The ability to address critical health and societal challenges would be significantly diminished if these cuts were to take effect. Data is fundamental to understanding the world's needs – whether related to healthy populations, the planet, or prosperity.

Furthermore, these proposed deep cuts would severely limit vital training opportunities for the next generation of statistical scientists, who are essential for tackling increasingly complex data challenges. This erosion of data infrastructure and statistical expertise would have far-reaching and likely irreversible negative impacts on our ability to understand and address future challenges.

I am also deeply dismayed by the developing reports of massive firings of National Science Foundation (NSF) employees and the elimination of divisions across all eight NSF directorates. If the reports are accurate, the implications for research and the public good would be devastating. Combined with the reported elimination of over 1000 already funded grants and the proposed 55% budget cut to the NSF, these actions signal a potentially fatal blow to an organization that has for decades been instrumental in making America the global leader in science and technology.

For generations, America's science and technology enterprise has been the engine of progress and prosperity across our nation, fostering critical thinking and attracting the brightest minds from around the globe. Quality scientific advancement has always been the bedrock of our progress. We should not abandon this legacy, but rather we should promote and advance this wildly successful enterprise.

Therefore, I urge Congress to reject these cuts and harmful organizational changes and instead reinvest in America's scientific future, ensuring these vital institutions can continue their crucial work for generations to come through continued, robust federal research funding.

Please contact your Member of Congress urging their support for this critical cause: <https://cossa.org/action-center/take-action/#/43>, and please remember to personalize your message.

Time is of the essence, and your voice is critical.