



American Association for University Professors
Indiana State Conference
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PLEASE OPPOSE SENATE BILL 202

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Please contact with questions:

- General: StopSB202@gmail.com or
- Alice Pawley, alicepawley@gmail.com



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

WE FLY

RE: Ball State University Faculty Council Resolution on the negative impact of Indiana Senate Bill 202 on academic freedom at Ball State University and at other institutions of Higher education in Indiana

Approved by Vote of Faculty Council: February 15, 2023

Rationale:

Academic freedom, and the institutional arrangements to secure them, go to the heart of the mission of the Ball State University Faculty Council. National bodies of faculty, like the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) [1], and Indiana institutions of higher education, like Ball State University [2], have a long record of acknowledging the essential importance of academic freedom for teaching and research and the duties and responsibilities that go hand-in-hand with this principle. Indeed, academic freedom is the best guarantee for intellectual diversity in academia.

At Ball State University, this commitment is embodied through multiple institutional guarantees which affirm both academic freedom and the associated but distinctly different principle of freedom of expression [3]. Ball State's policy on academic freedom affirms faculty primacy in deciding the content of inquiry and instruction [2]. Both formal and informal procedures relating to violations also reflect the primacy of the faculty in determining the parameters of academic freedom through a distinct structure of grievance committees [4]. Ball State University's current policy and procedures also affirm the importance of tenure in securing academic freedom [5]. On freedom of expression, too, the general approach of the university has been to insist on the greatest latitude to faculty (and staff and student) expression. This is also embodied in Ball State University's Beneficence Pledge, which aims to promote "high standards of scholarship and excellence," which are determined by peers, not politicians [6]. Senate Bill 202 outlines institutional arrangements that ignore the long history of placing determination of matters like academic freedom and intellectual diversity in the hands of the faculty. It replaces them with arrangements and measures certain to create state interference on these crucial questions.

A. In placing guardianship of intellectual diversity in the hands of the Boards of Trustees, SB 202 places responsibility for academic freedom in the hands of a body whose majority is politically appointed (with the bill further politicizing the process by removing input from the alumni council and requiring two of the nine members to be directly appointed by the state legislature rather than the governor) [7]. This represents a dangerous misallocation of responsibilities away from the faculty, who are in the best position to judge the quality, diversity, and rigor of academic work. SB 202 does this through Article 39.5, Chapter 2 Sec. 1 (b), Sec. 2, Sec. 4(a)(4), which gives the Board of Trustees a new power to inquire into the academic content of faculty upon the granting of tenure and promotion. Article 39.5, Chapter 4 Sec. 2 gives the Board of Trustees the power to create policy on "institutional neutrality" which has the capacity

to limit or prevent the establishment of positions, departments, institutions, schools, and colleges “on political, moral, or ideological issues to only those circumstances that affect the core mission of the institution,” which another way of saying gag order.

B. The wording of key provisions of SB 202 accords a tremendous degree of interpretive latitude. There is a clear danger of selective application of these provisions by political appointees. Examples of this are the use of the words “likely” and “unlikely” in Chapter 2 Sec. 1 b (1)-(3) and the broad latitude envisaged in Sec. 2 (a) (5).

C. Academic freedom is also assaulted by the dilution of tenure envisaged in Chapter 2 Sec. 2, which institutes a post-tenure review process with a variety of possible sanctions including termination and demotion. As mentioned in A. above, the fact that only political appointees are in charge of this process makes it possible that tenure will become a political weapon to leverage.

D. SB 202 encourages an atmosphere of suspicion and mistrust on university campuses by creating a new apparatus designed to gather complaints regarding the intellectual viewpoints expressed by faculty in class (Chapter 2 Section 4). The goal of students being able to safely express their complaints about faculty is one that we support. However, there is no evidence that existing structures for student complaints, including about faculty, are failing in their task. Additionally, the bill requires all complaints to be reported to the state, regardless of their veracity upon investigation. The fact that these complaints will be reported to state bodies after being resolved by the Ball State Board of Trustees demonstrates a lack of trust in state universities to govern and regulate themselves. It also provides an additional avenue for political interference in what faculty feel empowered to research and teach.

E. SB 202 creates an unnecessary and weighty bureaucratic structure of reporting and data gathering for complaints relating to ill-defined criteria for intellectual diversity (Chapter 5). Indeed, this seems a particularly apt instance of a bureaucratic waste of scarce university resources.

F. These considerable additional restrictions on the academic freedom of faculty in Indiana are accompanied by no robust protections for faculty subjected to complaints or sanction. Most caveats in the Bill reiterate rights guaranteed by existing federal law, for example, those relating to free speech and expression, as well as values already implemented by the Ball State Freedom of Expression Policy adopted in January 2020 [3]. The only avenue for appeal is to the Commission for Higher Education, a body also dominated by political appointees.

As is extensively documented by the AAUP, measures such as these in the name of “viewpoint diversity” have already had disastrous impacts on the freedoms of inquiry and dissemination of ideas in North Carolina, Florida, and Texas [8]. Indeed there is no robust evidence for a lack of intellectual diversity at universities in the United States [9-11]. This is a solution in search of a problem that is likely to create a host of real challenges for Ball State as it attempts to recruit and retain top-notch faculty, staff, and students. As pointed out in the 2007 Freedom in the Classroom report, “We ought to learn from history that education cannot possibly thrive in an atmosphere of state-encouraged suspicion and surveillance.” [12]

Intellectual diversity is indeed an important value. The most robust foundation for it in the university is academic freedom and independence from state interference. While claiming to stand for intellectual diversity, SB 202 would constitute a significant reduction of academic freedom, both here at Ball State University and also more generally at other Indiana institutions of higher education.

Resolution:

WHEREAS the body with the apex authority on academic matters at Ball State University is the Faculty Senate, we believe that the Senate should follow the Faculty Council to take the following actions to oppose SB 202 at Ball State and elsewhere in Indiana:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ball State University Faculty Council rejects the provisions in SB 202 which grant the Board of Trustees oversight of intellectual diversity on campus. The Board of Trustees as a body is not equipped to judge matters of intellectual diversity in instruction. As a body appointed by the government of the State of Indiana, and with alumni council input removed with the bill's provisions, its actions on matters of intellectual activity in the university would represent an improper extension of state control over matters of academic freedom. We, therefore, urge all members of the Indiana General Assembly to reject this measure. We also call on all our constituents, members of the university community and supporters of academic freedom in Indiana to actively lobby their representatives to oppose this measure.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ball State University Faculty Council opposes Indiana Senate Bill 202 and joins Ball State's AAUP chapter in endorsing its Statement against this legislation [13]; and,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Faculty Council leadership will publicize its adoption of this statement to appropriate local, state and national media; and,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Council requests that Geoffrey Mearns, President of Ball State University and the Ball State University Board of Trustees make a public statement expressing the University's opposition to SB 202, noting in particular its deleterious impact on academic freedom and tenure.

References:

1. AAUP 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom. Available at <https://www.aaup.org/report/1940-statement-principles-academic-freedom-and-tenure#B5>
 2. Ball State University Faculty and Staff Handbook: “Academic Freedom” (Section 7.1.2). Available at https://www.bsu.edu/-/media/www/departmentalcontent/facprofhandbook/2023-2024-fpph/20232024-handbook-11124.pdf?sc_lang=en&hash=7A480623C67AAFB5F183081FED017CC6FC3E37CA
 3. Ball State University Freedom of Expression Committee. Available at <https://www.bsu.edu/about/freedom-of-expression/freedom-of-expression-statement>
 4. Ball State University “Anti-Harassment Policy”. Available at <https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/staffcouncil/otherlinks/antiharassment>
 5. Ball State University, “Guidelines for Promotion and Tenure” (Definitions 35.2.7)” Available at https://www.bsu.edu/-/media/www/departmentalcontent/vice-provost/files/faculty-services/promotion-and-tenure/university-pt-document-20232024-final.pdf?sc_lang=en&hash=3E3753E08D5EF0176C043EDC681EDD901AAE114E
 6. Ball State University Beneficence Pledge, available at <https://www.bsu.edu/about/beneficence>
 7. “Indiana Law Governing Trustees of Ball State University”, available at <https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/president/boardoftrustees>
- SB202 increases the number of political appointees on Boards of Trustees around the state.
8. AAUP “Statement of Political Interference in Higher Education”, January 2024, Available at <https://www.aaup.org/issues/political-interference-higher-ed>
 9. Gross, Neil and Solon Simmons(ed.s), Professors and their Politics (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014).
 10. See the exchange between Naomi Oreskes and Charlie Tyson, and Phillip W. Magness in September-October 2020 in the Chronicle of Higher Education (1, 2, 3).
 11. On the reasons for Student self-censorship not primarily being fear of faculty see Megan Zahneis, ‘The Real Source of Self-Censorship’, in The Chronicle of Higher Education, March 22, 2023
 12. Finkin, Matthew, Robert Post and Cary Nelson, Freedom in the Classroom (Report prepared for the AAUP, September-October 2007) available at <https://www.aaup.org/file/ACASO07FreedomClassrmRpt.pdf>
 13. Ball State University AAUP Statement on Indiana SB 202 available at <https://bsuaaup.com/aaup-statement-on-indiana-sb-202/>



COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES
EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

TO: Kenneth C. Holford, Chancellor, PNW
Niaz Latif, Interim Provost, PNW
Mung Chiang, President, Purdue University
Board of Trustees, Purdue University
FROM: David P. Nalbone, Chair, Faculty Senate, PNW
RE: Resolution opposed to SB 202

Please find below the text of a resolution that was passed unanimously at the PNW Faculty Senate meeting today, Feb. 9, 2024.

“Purdue Northwest Faculty Senate opposes Senate Bill 202 due to its intent to limit academic freedom and undermine tenure and promotion policies.”

Minutes

Bloomington Faculty Council Minutes for February 13, 2024

1. The Bloomington Faculty Council meeting took place on Tuesday afternoon, February 13, 2024, in Presidents Hall. With Provost Rahul Shrivastav as the Presiding Officer and Lecturer Chase McCoy acting as secretary, the meeting convened at 2:33 p.m.
2. The [minutes from the January 30, 2024](#) meeting were approved.
3. Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs Carrie Docherty read a [Memorial Resolution for Nina Perlina](#).
4. Colin Johnson, the BFC President, began the Executive Committee Business Report by announcing the candidates who were nominated to be on the ballot for the BFC President Elect: Alex Tanford, Bill Ramos, and Chase McCoy. The vote will take place later this March. He provided an update on the status of [ACA-33](#) and [BL-ACA-D27](#), and stated that the Faculty Affairs Committee is reviewing these and will be proposing changes to both policies. He also addressed Indiana Senate Bill 202. He thanked Indiana University President Whitten for her public statement last week on the bill, and encouraged the faculty to voice their concerns as citizens of the state. The council then voted to suspend the rules in order to discuss whether to endorse a [joint statement on SB 202](#) written by the IU and Purdue chapters of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). The council voted to endorse the statement.
5. Provost Shrivastav began the Presiding Officer's report by standing by President Whitten's comments on Senate Bill 202. He affirmed his commitment to academic freedom and open inquiry. He stated that the University Relations team, along with other universities in the state, are voicing their concerns with state legislators. He updated the council on the efforts [Kinsey Institute special working group](#) to solicit feedback and recommendations. The working group has provided their recommendations, and these will be shared with the Board of Trustees. He congratulated IU programs that have received recent national recognition. Next, he updated the council on various searches, including the Executive Director for Arts and Humanities, and the Dean of the School of Education. He also announced a newly reimagined position for the Executive Director of Community Engagement. Finally, the provost provided updates on the status of IUB 2030. He addressed questions about the cancellation of the Samia Halaby exhibition, the status of the campus' cultural centers, and Senate Bill 202.
6. Next was an action item on changes to BL-ACA-H21. The proposed changes, [B17-2024: Proposed Changes to BL-ACA-H21, IU Bloomington Academic Calendar Principles](#), were presented at the last BFC meeting on January 31, 2024. Starting in spring 2025, the

proposed changes will extend the passing period to a minimum of twenty minutes and no more than twenty-five minutes. The change would also add an additional scheduling block for classes. Concerns were raised about the impact the policy changes would have on the workload for scheduling staff and on students. Additionally, it was asked whether the policy implementation date could be moved to fall 2025, and it was noted that spring 2025 was chosen as it would be the earliest possible implementation timeline. The Registrar stated in response to a question that schools with unique cohorts and scheduling will still be able to adjust the schedule to suit their needs. The council passed the policy, which will go into effect in spring 2025.

7. Alternative Resolution Advisory Committee presented on their charge to assess issues and the concerns of faculty related to interpersonal and other forms of conflict, to address ways to help faculty better navigate conflict, and recommend resources for supporting faculty. They shared the findings from a survey of Bloomington faculty that took place in fall 2023, as well as from focus groups and research conducted on how Big 10 schools address faculty conflicts. From these efforts, five themes emerged: 1) create new procedures and processes for conflict management; 2) establish a culture of communication; 3) improve administration/administrators; 4) face “structural not personal” challenges; and 5) improve overall campus climate through better policies and self-improvement. The committee’s next step is to send their recommendations report to Vice Provost Docherty by the end of February.
8. A discussion item on proposed changes to BL-ACA-D16 was the last item on the agenda. This was initially presented during the [November 14, 2023 BFC meeting](#). Given that there were significant revisions to the proposed changes to BL-ACA-D16 ([B21-2024: Revisions to November CREM policy draft based on feedback](#)) following that November meeting, this was treated as a first reading rather than a second reading. A co-chair of the [CREM Committee](#) walked the council through the changes made by the CREM committee. Some changes include increased collaboration between the provost and the Executive Committee, clarification about the composition of a Review Committee to assess reorganization proposals, and a provision that recommends that the provost not proceed with a reorganization if it is not supported by the faculty from the affected units and the Review Committee. The council was reminded that the policy being presented would actually be an entirely new policy, and would eliminate the CREM committee. In place of the CREM committee, a special Review Committee would be created when a reorganization proposal is put forward. Passing this policy would require changes to the BFC Bylaws. Questions and concerns were raised, especially about language in the proposed policy regarding the composition of a Review Committee. The CREM committee will be reviewing the policy again based on all the feedback provided.
9. The January 30, 2024 BFC meeting concluded at 4:30 p.m.



Resolution Opposing Indiana SB 202

Rationale:

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hands of the faculty. It replaces them with arrangements and measures certain to create state interference on these crucial questions.

A. In placing guardianship of intellectual diversity in the hands of the Boards of Trustees, SB 202 places responsibility for academic freedom in the hands of a body whose majority is politically appointed (with the bill further politicizing the process by removing input from the alumni council and requiring two of the nine members to be directly appointed by the state legislature rather than the governor) [7]. This represents a dangerous misallocation of responsibilities away from the faculty, who are in the best position to judge the quality, diversity, and rigor of academic work. SB 202 does this through Article 39.5, Chapter 2 Sec. 1 (b), Sec. 2, Sec. 4(a)(4), which gives the Board of Trustees a new power to inquire into the academic content of faculty upon the granting of tenure and promotion. Article 39.5, Chapter 4 Sec. 2 gives the Board of Trustees the power to create policy on “institutional neutrality” which has the capacity to limit or prevent the establishment of positions, departments, institutions, schools, and colleges “on political, moral, or ideological issues to only those circumstances that affect the core mission of the institution,” which another way of saying gag order

B. The wording of key provisions of SB 202 accords a tremendous degree of interpretive latitude. There is a clear danger of selective application of these provisions by political appointees. Examples of this are the use of the words “likely” and “unlikely” in Chapter 2 Sec. 1 b (1)-(3) and the broad latitude envisaged in Sec. 2 (a) (5).

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References:

1. AAUP 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom. Available at <https://www.aaup.org/report/1940-statement-principles-academic-freedom-and-tenure#B5>
2. Ball State University Faculty and Staff Handbook: "Academic Freedom" (Section 7.1.2). Available at https://www.bsu.edu/-/media/www/departmentalcontent/facprofhandbook/2023-2024fpph/20232024-handbook-11124.pdf?sc_lang=en&hash=7A480623C67AAFB5F183081FED017CC6FC3E37CA
3. Ball State University Freedom of Expression Committee. Available at <https://www.bsu.edu/about/freedom-of-expression/freedom-of-expression-statement>
4. Ball State University "Anti-Harassment Policy". Available at <https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/staffcouncil/otherlinks/antiharassment>
5. Ball State University, "Guidelines for Promotion and Tenure" (Definitions 35.2.7)" Available at https://www.bsu.edu/-/media/www/departmentalcontent/vice-provost/files/facultyservices/promotion-and-tenure/university-pt-document-20232024-final.pdf?sc_lang=en&hash=3E3753E08D5EF0176C043EDC681EDD901AAE114E
6. Ball State University Beneficence Pledge, available at <https://www.bsu.edu/about/beneficence>
7. "Indiana Law Governing Trustees of Ball State University", available at <https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/president/boardoftrustees> SB202 increases the number of political appointees on Boards of Trustees around the state.

8. AAUP “Statement of Political Interference in Higher Education”, January 2024, Available at <https://www.aaup.org/issues/political-interference-higher-ed>
9. Gross, Neil and Solon Simmons(ed.s), *Professors and their Politics* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014).
10. See the exchange between Naomi Oreskes and Charlie Tyson, and Phillip W. Magness in September-October 2020 in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* (1, 2, 3).
11. On the reasons for Student self-censorship not primarily being fear of faculty see Megan Zahneis, ‘The Real Source of Self-Censorship’, in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, March 22, 2023
12. Finkin, Matthew, Robert Post and Cary Nelson, Freedom in the Classroom (Report prepared for the AAUP, September-October 2007) available at <https://www.aaup.org/file/ACASO07FreedomClassrmRpt.pdf>
13. Ball State University AAUP Statement on Indiana SB 202 <https://bsuaaup.com/aaup-statement-on-indiana-sb-202/>

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INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

2023-2024 Faculty Senate

Whereas Indiana State University already protects and values intellectual diversity, academic freedom, and freedom of speech, per our University mission to “take action to honor the diversity of individuals, ideas and expressions, ensuring that they are genuinely recognized, valued, and lived”;¹ and,

Whereas Indiana Senate Bill 202 would limit the ability for Indiana State University students to “succeed within a culture of inclusion and support that provides the skills and knowledge to impact Indiana and beyond”¹ thus diminishing the University to prepare career-ready graduates for the Indiana workforce; and

Whereas Indiana Senate Bill 202 will negatively affect the ability of Indiana’s public institutions to recruit and retain high-quality faculty, staff, and students, as well as limit the institutions’ ability to secure external funding and collaborate across states; and,

Whereas Indiana State University hosts several programs that require specialized accreditation, which require content and pedagogy related to inclusion, in direct opposition to the instructional and evaluative parameters outlined in Indiana Senate Bill 202; and,

Whereas Indiana State University has already created and implemented non-tenure, pre-tenure, and post-tenure faculty review processes, thus rendering Indiana Senate Bill 202 redundant, adding to the bureaucratic burden of state institutions, and undermining the objectives the Bill seeks to achieve; and,

Whereas Indiana Senate Bill 202, which would establish a separate and politicized evaluation process that allows faculty to be terminated or demoted based on perceived past or “likely/unlikely” future behavior, regardless of the results of the existing review process, is highly ambiguous and thus dangerously open to interpretation and implementation; and,

Whereas the Indiana State University Board of Trustees is held to specific fiduciary, evaluative, and administrative responsibilities that are fundamental to the operations of the institution but that are distinct from the evaluative responsibilities of faculty with content and pedagogical expertise; and,

Whereas Indiana Senate Bill 202 does not provide due process for faculty, with the sole mechanism for appeal routed through the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, which includes political appointees and is ill-equipped to exercise evaluative authority over individual faculty; and,

¹ Indiana State University. Mission. Available at: <https://www.indstate.edu/about/mission>. Accessed on: February 15, 2024.

Whereas Indiana Senate Bill 202 will encourage students, faculty, and staff to report on one another in ways that hinder intellectual diversity, academic freedom, freedom of speech and expression, and will pressure members of the academic community to align their teaching, their scholarship, and their other activities to ideological orthodoxies that are not evidence-informed; and,

Whereas Indiana State University already has multiple avenues in place for students to share concerns about faculty practices, including an anonymous end of semester evaluation, student Ombudsperson, and grievance and discrimination reporting processes within departments and colleges, as well as the University; and,

Whereas no scientifically sound, generalizable, or peer-reviewed evidence has been cited to support the need for Indiana Senate Bill 202, and moreover Indiana State University faculty score highly on student evaluations regarding approachability, respect for students, and positive interactions, thereby demonstrating a positive and safe place to learn; and

Whereas Indiana Senate Bill 202 undermines the tradition of shared governance established at Indiana State University; and,

Whereas Indiana Senate Bill 202 is an unfunded mandate, and early estimates of the fiscal impact suggest it would cost the taxpayers millions of dollars to operationalize across the state;

Therefore be it resolved: The Indiana State University Faculty Senate is opposed to Indiana Senate Bill 202.

Approval of Resolution (20-0-0) on Thursday, February 15, 2024

Indiana South Bend Faculty Council Statement opposing SB-202

““The IU South Bend Academic Senate shares IU President Whitten’s deep concerns about SB 202. We agree that the current bill would jeopardize academic freedom, undermine students’ ability to engage in the critical thinking that employers consistently report that they value, and prevent IU from recruiting top-tier faculty. We agree that the bill would have unintended consequences with the potential to threaten universities throughout the state, as well as Indiana’s economy.”

Passed 2/16/24, posted at:

<https://blogs.iu.edu/senate/2024/02/12/academic-senate-agenda-february-16-2024/#:~:text=The%20IUSB%20Academic%20Senate%20joins,from%20recruiting%20top%2Dtier%20faculty>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fort Wayne Senate
FROM: Assem Nasr, COM Senator
Steve Carr, Voting Faculty
DATE: February 2, 2024
SUBJ: Indiana Senate Bill 202 to Amend the Indiana Code Concerning Higher Education

Indiana Senate Bill 202 to Amend the Indiana Code Concerning Higher Education

WHEREAS Purdue University Fort Wayne already has established and promoted our [principles](#) concerning academic freedom and freedom of speech as being “the lifeblood of our academic community” that requires “an atmosphere of mutual respect among diverse persons, groups, and ideas”;¹ and,

WHEREAS [Indiana Senate Bill 202 to Amend the Indiana Code Concerning Higher Education](#) proposes to subject tenured and non-tenured faculty alike to a politicized review process that will terminate or demote faculty based on adherence to strict ideological orthodoxy; and,

WHEREAS Indiana Senate Bill 202 to Amend the Indiana Code Concerning Higher Education will set up a state commission to evaluate and police faculty adherence to this orthodoxy, adding a superfluous and counterproductive layer of bureaucracy that only further removes Indiana students from the free flow and diverse exchange of ideas making up the quality education they deserve; and,

WHEREAS Indiana Senate Bill 202 to Amend the Indiana Code Concerning Higher Education will turn students, staff, and faculty into informants to ensure members of the academic community follow strict ideological orthodoxy, creating a surveillance system antithetical to core democratic values shared across the political spectrum in Indiana and throughout the U.S.; and,

WHEREAS Indiana Senate Bill 202 to Amend the Indiana Code Concerning Higher Education will restrict pursuit of diversity, equity, and inclusion goals including statements made in support of these goals, despite longstanding American traditions to embrace diversity, equity, and inclusion not in spite but because of deeply held principles and values embodied within the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Indiana Constitution; and,

WHEREAS Indiana Senate Bill 202 to Amend the Indiana Code Concerning Higher Education will restrict admissions, enrollment, employment, promotion, and tenure decisions based on ideological purity tests given to individuals to disavow their support for diversity, equity, and inclusion goals; and,

WHEREAS Indiana Senate Bill 202 to Amend the Indiana Code Concerning Higher Education will only impair and hobble Indiana universities from recruiting, evaluating and determining the best-qualified candidates based on their individual merits and accomplishments, rather than candidates’ personal beliefs or political affiliations, to fill faculty positions in both STEM and

¹ Purdue University Fort Wayne, “Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech,” <https://www.pfw.edu/about-pfw/mission-vision-values-principles>, accessed 9 Feb. 2024.

non-STEM disciplines alike;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Purdue University Fort Wayne Senate oppose Indiana Senate Bill 202 and join Ball State's AAUP chapter in endorsing its [Statement](#) against this legislation; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Fort Wayne Senate calls upon Fort Wayne Chancellor Ron Elsenbaumer, Purdue President Mung Chiang, the Purdue Board of Trustees, and all university faculty, employees, and students at Purdue University Fort Wayne to oppose Indiana Senate Bill 202.

To: The University Senate
From: The Faculty Affairs Committee
Subject: The negative impact of Indiana Senate Bill 202 on academic freedom at Purdue University and at other institutions of higher education in Indiana
Reference: [Indiana Senate Bill 202](#)
Disposition: University Senate for Discussion and Adoption

Rationale: Academic freedom, and the institutional arrangements to secure them, go to the heart of the mission of the University Senate. National bodies of faculty, like the AAUP [1], and Indiana-based institutions of higher education, like Purdue University [2], have a long record of acknowledging the essential importance of academic freedom for teaching and research, and the duties and responsibilities that go hand-in-hand with this principle. Indeed, academic freedom is the best guarantee for intellectual diversity in academia.

At Purdue University, this commitment is embodied through multiple institutional guarantees which affirm both academic freedom and the associated but distinct principle of freedom of expression. Purdue's policy on academic freedom affirms faculty primacy in deciding the content of inquiry and instruction [3]. Both formal and informal procedures relating to violations also reflect the primacy of the faculty in determining the parameters of academic freedom through a distinct structure of grievance committees [4]. Purdue University's current policy and procedures also affirm the importance of tenure in securing academic freedom [5]. On freedom of expression, too, the general approach of the university has been to insist on the greatest latitude to faculty (and staff and student) expression. This is embodied in Purdue University's "commitment to Freedom of Expression which follows the principles outlined by the University of Chicago's committee on Freedom of Expression [6].

SBo202 outlines institutional arrangements that ignore the long history of placing determination of matters like academic freedom and intellectual diversity in the hands of the faculty. It replaces

them with arrangements and measures certain to create state interference on these crucial questions.

A. In placing guardianship of intellectual diversity in the hands of the Boards of Trustees SB 202 reposes responsibility for academic freedom in the hands of a body a majority of whose members are politically appointed [7]. This represents a dangerous misallocation of responsibilities away from the faculty—who are in the best position to judge the quality, diversity, and rigor of academic work. SB 202 does this through Chapter 2 Sec. 1 (b), Sec. 2, Sec. 4(a)(4) which gives the Board of Trustees a new power to inquire into the academic content of faculty coming up for tenure and promotion. Chapter 4 Sec. 2 gives the Board of Trustees the power to create policy on institutional neutrality which has the capacity to limit the establishment of positions, departments, institutions, schools, and colleges.

B. The wording of key provisions of SB 202 accords a tremendous degree of interpretive latitude. There is a clear danger of selective application of these provisions by political appointees. Examples of this are the use of the words “likely” and “unlikely” in Chapter 2 Sec. 1 b (1)-(3) and the broad latitude envisaged in Sec. 2 (a) (5).

C. Academic freedom is also assaulted by the dilution of tenure envisaged in Chapter 2 Sec. 2, which institutes a post-tenure review process with a variety of possible sanctions including termination. As mentioned in A. above, the fact that political appointees are in charge of this process only makes it possible that tenure is now a political weapon to leverage.

D. Encourages an atmosphere of suspicion and mistrust on university campuses by creating a new apparatus designed to gather complaints regarding the intellectual viewpoints expressed by faculty in class (Chapter 2 Section 4). The goal of students being able to safely express their complaints against faculty is one that we support. However, there is no evidence that existing structures for student complaints, including against faculty, are failing in their task.

E. Creates an unnecessary and weighty bureaucratic structure of reporting and data gathering for complaints relating to ill-defined criteria for intellectual diversity (Chapter 5). Indeed, this seems a particularly apt instance of a bureaucratic waste of scarce university resources.

F. These considerable additional restrictions on the academic freedom of faculty in Indiana are accompanied by no robust protections for faculty subjected to complaints or sanction. Most caveats in the Bill reiterate rights guaranteed by existing federal law—e.g. those relating to free speech and expression. The only avenue for appeal is to the Commission for Higher Education—a body also dominated by appointees of the government of the day.

As is extensively documented by the AAUP, measures such as these in the name of “viewpoint diversity” have already had disastrous impacts on freedom of inquiry and dissemination. This has taken the form of closing institutions (e.g. in North Carolina those creating policy on subjects like biodiversity and poverty), state governments taking control of institutions (e.g. New College in Florida) and the creation by boards of governors of new institutions to further partisan views (School of Civic Life and Leadership at UNC Chapel Hill) [8]. Indeed robust evidence for a lack of intellectual diversity at universities in the US is absent [9-11]. The cure, however, for a disease that might not exist, is most certainly a problem. As pointed out in the 2007 *Freedom in the Classroom* report, “We ought to learn from history that education cannot possibly thrive in an atmosphere of state-encouraged suspicion and surveillance” [12].

Intellectual diversity is indeed a value to be cherished. The most robust foundation for it in the university is academic freedom and independence from state interference. While claiming to stand for intellectual diversity, SB 202 would constitute a significant reduction of academic freedom, both here at Purdue University and also more generally at other Indiana Institutions of Higher Education.

Proposal: Purdue University Senate takes the following actions to oppose SB 202 at Purdue University and elsewhere in Indiana:

1. The Senate adopts the following statement:

The Purdue University Senate rejects the provisions in SB 202 which grant the Board of Trustees oversight of intellectual diversity on campus. The Board of Trustees as a body is not equipped to judge matters of intellectual diversity in instruction or research. As a body appointed by the government of the State of Indiana, its actions on matters of intellectual activity in the university would represent an improper extension of state control over matters of academic freedom. We, therefore, urge all members of the Indiana General Assembly

to reject this measure. We also call on all our constituents, members of the university community and supporters of academic freedom in Indiana to actively lobby their representatives to oppose this measure.

2. Through the Senate Chair, publicizes its adoption of this statement to appropriate Indiana-wide and national media.
3. Urges the President of Purdue University make a public statement expressing the university's opposition to SB 202 and noting in particular its deleterious impact on academic freedom.
4. Through the Senate Chair, reaches out to the leaderships of the Purdue Graduate Student Government, Purdue Student Government and the leaderships of MaPSAC and CSSAC and urge them to publicly voice their opposition to SB 202, noting in particular its deleterious impact on academic freedom.
5. Through the Senate Chair, reaches out to the leaderships of the Senates at Purdue Northwest and Purdue Fort Wayne to coordinate a Purdue system-wide opposition to SB 202 centered on its deleterious impact on academic freedom.
6. Through the Senate Chair, participates in developing a state-wide joint response to SB 202. This would involve reaching out to faculty bodies at the other universities in Indiana mentioned in Art. 39.5 Chap 1. Sec. 2 of SB 202 and coordinate an urgent campaign to strengthen opposition to the bill.

References:

1. AAUP 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom. Available at <https://www.aaup.org/report/1940-statement-principles-academic-freedom-and-tenure#B5>
2. Purdue University Faculty and Staff Handbook: "Academic Freedom". Available at https://www.purdue.edu/faculty_staff_handbook/policies/faculty-policies/academic-freedom.php
3. Purdue University Academic and Research Affairs Policies: Academic Freedom (1.A.4) <https://www.purdue.edu/policies/academic-research-affairs/ia4.html>

4. Section III of “Principles and Policies for Academic Freedom, Responsibilities and Tenure, and Procedures for Termination of Faculty Appointments for Cause”. Available at <https://www.purdue.edu/policies/human-resources/b-48.html>
5. Purdue University Academic and Research Affairs Policies, “Academic Tenure and Promotion (I.B.2)” Available at <https://www.purdue.edu/policies/academic-research-affairs/ib2.html>
6. Purdue University, “Commitment to Freedom of Speech”. Available at <https://www.purdue.edu/home/free-speech/>
7. “Indiana Law Governing Trustees of Purdue University”, available at <https://www.purdue.edu/bot/about/indiana-code.php>. SB202 increases the number of political appointees on Boards of Trustees around the state.
8. AAUP “Statement of Political Interference in Higher Education”, January 2024, Available at <https://www.aaup.org/report/statement-political-interference-higher-education>
9. Gross, Neil and Solon Simmons(ed.s), *Professors and their Politics* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014).
10. See the exchange between Naomi Oreskes and Charlie Tyson, and Phillip W. Magness in September-October 2020 in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).
11. On the reasons for Student self-censorship not primarily being fear of faculty see [Megan Zahneis, ‘The Real Source of Self-Censorship’, in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, March 22, 2023](#)
12. Finkin, Matthew, Robert Post and Cary Nelson, *Freedom in the Classroom* (Report prepared for the AAUP, September-October 2007) available at <https://www.aaup.org/file/ACASO07FreedomClassrmRpt.pdf>

Committee Votes:

For:

Françoise Brosseau-Lapré *
Patricia Davies
Angeline Lyon
Stephanie Masta
Jennifer Scheuer
Anish Vanaik *
Eric Waltenburg

Against:

Abstained:

Lisa Mauer

Absent:

Stephen Cameron
Michael Campion
Ajay Malshe
Sunil Prabhakar
J. Paul Robinson

* Indicates co-chairs



AAUP Statement on Indiana SB 202

Ball State's AAUP chapter calls upon President Geoff Mearns, Provost Anand R. Marri, the Presidents and Provosts of Indiana's other state universities, all State Senators and Representatives, and all university faculty, employees, and students of Indiana to **oppose the government overreach and restriction of academic freedom of expression inherent to [Senate Bill 202](#)**.

This bill proposes to:

- Subject faculty to politicized review every five years, thus interfering in long-held norms of tenure recommendations by academic experts (giving the non-academic Boards of Trustees the right to demote or fire "tenured" faculty for ideological reasons) (Article 39.5-2-§2);
- Abolish academic freedom by setting up a commission to assess faculty's adherence to arbitrary ideological criteria (§23-30);
- Impose political/legal restriction on academic discourse;
- Establish a complaints mechanism whereby students and even fellow employees are encouraged to inform on faculty members for a perceived failure to showcase ideological and political diversity (Article 39.5-2-§4);
- Restricts the use of statements on diversity, equity, and inclusion ("or related topics"), curtailing the university's own decision-making in framing inclusive excellence, imposing governmental limits on the way in which admission, enrollment, employment, promotion, or tenure decisions are made (Article 39.5-3-§1).

The Board of Trustees at Ball State University have affirmed their support of academic freedom of expression through their adoption of a modified version of the Chicago Principles on January 31, 2020, which—among other principles advancing the protection of free speech and inquiry—pledges to “keep inclusive excellence at the highest level of institutional importance and as the foundation of all that we do” ([BSU Freedom of Expression Statement](#)). Aspects of SB 202 hamper free expression and inquiry by subjecting faculty to ideological review conducted by politically appointed personnel with no subject matter expertise, and explicitly bar faculty and applicants to Ball State University from making statements of inclusivity.

Ultimately, SB 202 is a direct attack on academic freedom, tenure, and universities' own admissions and hiring practices. While the bill attempts to use the language of academic freedom and intellectual diversity, it determinedly aims to limit academic freedom and transform the process and protections of tenure. This bill will severely limit faculty members' ability to fulfill their duty to impart knowledge and promote learning in higher-education classrooms. It will undermine the climate of trust and basic faith that are required for mentoring and collaboration. Rather than promoting a “neutral” environment, this bill will introduce a layer of political bias in higher education where none existed before, particularly as the proposed 5-year review makes no exception for apolitical fields, like STEM disciplines (the bill specifies that ideological/political scholarship should be applicable to the field, but there are no alternative review mechanisms for apolitical fields). The lauded network of state institutions in Indiana will become sterile places merely credentialing rather than creating environments for cultivating critical thinking, professionalization, and democratization, as the fear of failing a review by not exposing students



to an undefined range of political/ideological scholarship—and the fear of reporting—will dampen freedom of inquiry.

Equally disturbing is the infeasibility of granting Boards of Trustees the power to supersede faculty members' expertise through additional reviews of tenure. Such acts are in violation of the cherished values of academia, and the AAUP opposes the idea of a politically based post-tenure review, as laid out in "Post-Tenure Review: An AAUP Response" ([here](#)). As this document states, while ongoing faculty development is certainly beneficial, any such post-tenure review must be developed and carried out by faculty and must not be a reevaluation of tenure itself. In the proposed bill, however, there is no stipulation for Board members to have expertise in the academic fields that they are evaluating. Further ensuring the political slant of Boards, the law stipulates that additional Trustees will be appointed by the legislature. Alarming and in contradiction to the norms of academia, the bill would allow for tenured faculty to now face "termination; demotion; salary reduction; [or] other disciplinary action" if they do not live up to the hazy ideological stipulations of the bill.

By removing the protections—particularly that of free expression and research—of tenure from the auspices of faculty oversight, the evaluation of discipline-specific criteria, and the century-old value of shared governance, the bill contributes to government overreach by placing curriculum and retention decisions in the hands of politically appointed personnel rather than scholars who are in principle committed to two preeminent values: truth and academic ethics. That higher education has been a public good, for which the United States and Indiana have acquired global reputations, is of no consequence in the text of this bill.

In direct contrast to such political oversight stands John Dewey's 1915 "Declaration of Principles" of academic freedom, which states that "The term 'academic freedom' has traditionally had two applications—to the freedom of the teacher and to that of the student Academic freedom in this sense comprises three elements: freedom of inquiry and research; freedom of teaching within the university or college; and freedom of extra-mural utterance and action. . . . An adequate discussion of academic freedom must necessarily consider three matters: (1) the scope and basis of the power exercised by those bodies having ultimate legal authority in academic affairs; (2) the nature of the academic calling; (3) the function of the academic institution or university." These principles have provided the basic operative values of the university for well over a century. Overturning them would result in chaos.

Further, the bill interferes with universities' ability to make their own policy regarding inclusive excellence on campus, intervening in what the bill refers to as diversity, equity, and inclusion statements. It mandates that "If an institution receives a pledge or statement described in subsection (b), including any statement regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion, or related topics, the institution may not award: (1) admission, enrollment, or employment; (2) benefits; (3) hiring, reappointment, or promotion; or (4) granting tenure; to an applicant, an employee, or a person described in subsection (a) on the basis of the viewpoints expressed in the pledge or statement." This could limit the university's ability to attract and retain a diverse student and faculty body, and this is especially relevant given Ball State's concerns about enrollment generally and about growing its enrollment of underrepresented students in particular, fundamentally undercutting the inclusiveness that is articulated as one of our "enduring values." In so doing, it hampers the university's right to make its own decisions regarding hiring and admission processes, as well as its ability to emphasize the commitment "to respect and



embrace equity, inclusion, and diversity in people, ideas, and opinions” (as stated in Ball State’s current [Inclusive Excellence Plan](#)). Ultimately, while the bill uses the language of “intellectual and cultural diversity,” it creates impediments on faculty and institutions by stigmatizing expressions and statements of diversity or inclusivity, whether intellectual or cultural.

With Ball State Faculty Council having voted in favor of the BSU AAUP’s Statement on the Teaching of Race and Gender (2022) ([here](#)), we note accordingly that BSU faculty as a body has spoken out against such legislative interference as SB 202 now represents. The resolution passed by BSU Faculty Council affirms the AAUP, AAC&U, PEN America, et al.’s Joint Statement on Legislative Efforts to Restrict Education about Racism and American History (2021) ([here](#)). The resolution passed by Ball State’s Faculty Council also affirms that “in a nation that has for centuries struggled with issues of racial inequity and injustice...the Faculty Council resolutely affirms the values of freedom of inquiry, imparting knowledge, and advancing the frontiers of knowledge, all for the purpose of bettering society and individuals. We stand firm against encroachment on these aforementioned values, in particular as they impact student learning and matters related to racial and social justice.” Thus, Ball State faculty has already come out against such legislative attempts to interfere with teaching and curricula, and specifically affirms the right to teach and discuss the kinds of issues enumerated above, without the government overreach of a bill like SB 202. Now, we urge the university administration and all right-thinking people to do the same.

In light of all of the above, it is eminently clear that SB 202 will wreak havoc on Ball State’s and the other Indiana state universities’ operations, teaching, and student affairs, as well as the climate/morale in academia in Indiana more generally. We already know what this looks like, based on recent developments in Florida and Texas. The results will be undemocratic, stifle academic freedom, and will ultimately push faculty out of higher education and leave our students underserved, particularly when Indiana is in great need of an educated workforce to contribute to its economic development. We therefore reiterate the urgent call to oppose and defeat Indiana bill SB 202.

(Statement Date: January 31, 2024)



The Purdue-Fort Wayne chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) opposes Indiana Senate Bill 202 in its current form. In doing so, it joins AAUP chapters across the state as well as the Purdue Fort Wayne Senate.

SB 202 purports to protect academic freedom and diverse viewpoints, but it will have the opposite effect. The bill increases the power of political appointees on university boards of trustees, greenlights chilling ideological surveillance of faculty and students in the classroom, undermines basic tenure protections for faculty—the long-term job security that allows educators to promote the free flow of ideas in the classroom without fear of retaliation, and defunds programs that make campuses more inclusive of diverse Hoosiers. Less obvious but just as concerning, the bill requires the creation of a huge bureaucracy to carry out the surveillance, policing, and ideological litmus testing it decrees.

The SB 202 gives political leaders and institutions control over “cultural and intellectual diversity” on campuses. In other words, it further politicizes a sector (public higher education) that was created and invested in as a public good, that citizens of our state and in our democratic nation depend on to serve as a free space where political platforms and issues can be scrutinized, challenged, and improved. One of the unintended consequences of SB 202 is creating fear on campuses that will chill free speech. By instituting ideological scrutiny in tenure and post-tenure review of faculty, it will pit faculty against faculty and faculty against students.

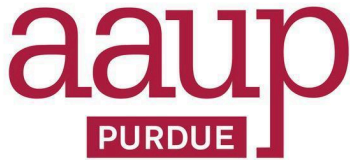
As the Indiana University-Bloomington and Purdue University-West Lafayette chapters note in their statement, it took a century to build a public higher education system in Indiana that is the envy of educators across the nation and around the world. This system has brought economic, scientific, cultural, and health benefits to Hoosiers, building a cutting-edge workforce of skilled graduates that has attracted industry, enterprise, and cultural entities to the state. It has considerably more to offer. Maintaining that profile is dependent on our ability to draw top-quality faculty to the state. Indiana’s exceptional success could be quickly and permanently lost if SB 202 eliminates the academic freedom that outstanding faculty consider essential to their careers and that nurtures the intellectual vitality that keeps our top young Hoosier students studying in their home state.

The bills’ promoters have sincere concerns about ideological diversity on campuses. We share their passion for free speech, and we will join them in their efforts to protect public campuses’ ability to promote free and diverse intellectual activity, but not in the way this bill does so. Through its vague language, redundant bureaucracy, and elevation of the well-being of specific student

populations over others, this bill will have far-reaching and devastating unintended consequences on our public universities and colleges. We urge legislators to listen to educators—those of us who are on the ground in these classrooms—about the potential way these policy changes around free speech and diversity could play out on the ground. We call on business leaders, entrepreneurs, health care leaders, cultural institutions, and citizens who benefit every day from our universities' outstanding contributions to communicate their opposition to SB 202.

Passed by AAUP chapter of Purdue Fort Wayne 2/16/24

Some content in this statement was provided by the IUB and PWL chapters. The PFW chapter is grateful for the permission to use that content.



Joint Statement of IU-Bloomington and Purdue-West Lafayette AAUP Chapters on Senate Bill 202

The Purdue-West Lafayette and Indiana University-Bloomington chapters of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) join in opposing Indiana Senate Bill 202 in its current form. Adoption of SB 202 would severely damage the ability of Indiana's two public Research-1 universities—Purdue-West Lafayette and IU-Bloomington—to recruit and retain outstanding faculty, erasing the State of Indiana's uniquely prominent national profile in higher education.

In its attempt to ensure that all students and faculty at state universities feel confident they can express their political and intellectual views freely—an aspiration the AAUP shares—SB 202 mandates a system of surveillance and political scrutiny that will instead stifle the free flow of ideas. It requires that hiring, tenure, and promotion become subject to reviews that judge faculty based on political criteria, and that post-tenure employment be contingent on further periodic reviews. These measures would severely constrain academic freedom at our university.

Academic freedom is a foundational value for faculty. Faculty broadly accept lower salaries than they could otherwise earn in order to pursue research and teaching with intellectual freedom that fulfills the highest standards of their academic fields. The security imparted by tenure is the fundamental protection of academic freedom; its loss would make university positions in Indiana undesirable. Recruiting and retaining top faculty, who will always have alternatives, will no longer be possible.

Indiana has a great deal to lose if SB 202 is adopted. Too many people are unaware that Indiana punches far above its weight in terms of national research universities. Of the four categories by which doctoral training programs at American research universities are judged, Indiana captures the top rank in two: Purdue is the leader in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, and IU is the leader in Arts and Humanities. In these areas our two schools outpace every other US university, public or private.

It took a century to build that profile for the State of Indiana, and it has brought sustained economic, scientific, cultural, and health benefits to Hoosiers, building a cutting-edge workforce of skilled graduates that has attracted industry, enterprise, and cultural entities to the state. Maintaining that profile is dependent on our continuing to draw top-quality faculty to the state. But Indiana's exceptional success could be quickly and permanently lost if SB 202 eliminates the academic freedom that outstanding faculty consider essential to their careers.

We urge legislators to pursue a different approach to address concerns they have. We support the efforts of our university administrations to advocate for a path that will protect and strengthen rather than destroy Indiana's uniquely successful national and international profile. And we urge corporations, cultural institutions, and citizens who benefit every day from our universities' outstanding performance to oppose SB 202 and to seek better ways forward.

Passed by AAUP-Purdue Executive Committee 2/12/24

American Association for University Professors - Purdue University Chapter
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907
www.aaupurdue.org, aaup.purdue@gmail.com



PRESS ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Shelley Arvin (infopusher@earthlink.net)

The Indiana State University chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) join the other Indiana University AAUP chapters and the Indiana State University Faculty Senate in opposing Indiana Senate Bill 202.

Passed by AAUP-Indiana State University Executive Committee 2/16/24

References to other Statements and Resolutions:

[Indiana State University Faculty Senate Resolution on SB 202](#)

[Joint Statement of IU-Bloomington and Purdue-West Lafayette AAUP Chapters on Senate Bill 202](#)

[AAUP Ball State Statement on Indiana SB 202](#)



Indiana

American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana

STATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION MATTERS

<https://www.aclu-in.org/en/legislation/state-educational-institution-matters>

While SB 202 is wrapped up in language about free inquiry and expression, the ACLU of Indiana is very concerned about provisions limiting or chilling speech on campus. In particular, sections on classroom curriculum and discourse and student mentoring are so vague as to create confusion on the part of subject matter faculty experts about what can and cannot be discussed. Given that a faculty member could face a range of serious disciplinary actions, including demotion and termination, this vagueness is particularly troubling.

The bill also creates criteria for evaluation of tenure decisions that incorporates the same vagueness. Requiring a largely appointed Board of Trustees to have the expertise to evaluate the bill's criteria across dozens of disciplines is wholly unrealistic. The likely result is arbitrary promotion and disciplinary decisions, often informed by the political beliefs of a majority of the board.

The ACLU of Indiana strongly supports public universities that uphold the principles of free inquiry and expression. Unfortunately, SB 202 undercuts that goal by limiting free speech on campus.

****Note: SB 202 was amended in a number of positive ways in the House Education Committee, but we remain opposed to the bill and concerned about its implications for free speech.***





ACLS

American Council of
Learned Societies

American Historical Association Sends Letter to Indiana Legislature Opposing “Intellectual Diversity” Tenure Bill

Published: February 22, 2024

On Monday, February 21, 2024, the American Historical Association (AHA) sent a [letter](#) to members of the Indiana House Education Committee expressing strong opposition to Indiana Senate Bill 202, which would “create a policy for granting tenure and terminating the appointments of tenured faculty based on how well that faculty member has fostered ‘intellectual diversity’ within the classroom.” AHA is one of the founding [member societies](#) of ACLS.

As written, the bill inserts the will and judgment of politically appointed boards of trustees into the fundamental work of university faculty. This proposed legislation represents another dangerous attempt to stem the growth and strength of higher education in the United States by putting limits on academic freedom and eliminating tenure protection, putting thousands of jobs on the line.

ACLS applauds AHA’s stance and strongly endorses its letter to the Indiana House Education Committee.

We define academic freedom as the state, in the person of elected politicians, administrators, and political appointees, not determining the hiring, evaluation, or curriculum content, and with faculty determining the curriculum and evaluating the performance of students and faculty.

We also encourage members of our community, especially those in Indiana, to write to their [Indiana legislative representatives](#) and the [Education Committee](#) expressing their opposition to this proposed bill.

Formed in 1919, ACLS is a nonprofit federation of 80 scholarly organizations. As the preeminent representative of American scholarship in the humanities and interpretive social sciences, ACLS holds a core belief that knowledge is a public good.

633 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017-6706 Telephone: 212-697-1505

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February 20, 2024

Dear Members of the Indiana House Education Committee:

SB 202 would undermine the integrity and quality of education in Indiana's public universities. This legislation mandates that the boards of trustees of Indiana's public institutions of higher education create a policy for granting tenure and terminating the appointments of tenured faculty based on how well that faculty member has fostered "intellectual diversity" within the classroom. The American Historical Association urges you to reject this attempt at ideological monitoring that will weaken the system of tenure and discourage top-level faculty from joining Indiana's public universities.

The AHA does not disagree in principle with SB 202's goal to ensure that faculty "help the institution foster a culture of free inquiry, free expression, and intellectual diversity." Classrooms must be spaces where students can experiment with ideas without worrying about ideological boundaries or mandates, places where teachers stimulate students to explore freely without inculcating anything other than the value of intellectual curiosity and disciplinary rigor and ethics.

This bill, however, inserts the will and judgment of politically appointed boards of trustees into the fundamental work of university faculty. Trustees, several steps removed from the classroom, would gain broad authority to adjudicate just what qualifies as "subjecting students to views and opinions not related to the faculty member's academic discipline"—or indeed, what the appropriate "variety of political or ideological frameworks" in each discipline looks like. Where is the line? Must a history course on the Holocaust assign texts by Holocaust deniers? This legislation would create conditions of uncertainty for faculty, presenting situations where their jobs are on the line for the infraction of not having enough arbitrarily decided "variety" in their "political or ideological frameworks."

History—and by extension history instruction—thrives on reasoned debate and a constant search for new questions and new angles of vision. Procedures for tenure and promotion in our discipline reward the ability to find fresh insights in the events of yesteryear, rooted in standards for evidence and interpretation articulated in the AHA's [Statement on Standards of Professional Conduct](#). In our discipline, true intellectual diversity cannot be reduced, as this bill proposes, to "multiple, divergent, and varied scholarly perspectives on an extensive range of public policy issues." As we have noted [elsewhere](#), "most historical issues are better understood as having different angles of vision rather than 'opposing sides.'" We object to the premise that higher education faculty should be evaluated based on the diversity of their politics as opposed to the quality of their ideas. We suspect that many Indiana voters would agree.

Post-tenure review is an inappropriate means by which to address the content of course material. Universities already have an extensive system in place to evaluate faculty performance, mediate institutional grievances, and govern themselves in accordance with widely held principles. Inviting political appointees to intervene, overrule, and punish faculty will merely make it easier for public interest groups and politicians—of either party—to weed out faculty with whom they disagree.

Tenure was instituted nearly a century ago, not as a sinecure but to guarantee the academic freedom necessary to assure integrity and innovation in both research and teaching. A tenured scholar could ask controversial questions in the classroom and in developing new research projects. Scholarly pathways could draw from creativity, expertise, and evidence without limitations from state mandates or pressure. Tenure helps to protect university classrooms and laboratories as spaces where learning is advanced and new knowledge is created, rather than any given political platform promoted. America's colleges and universities draw faculty and students from around the world because of the research and educational advantages that follow from these principles.

Despite occasional media misrepresentations, tenure is not a license to slack off or to engage in untoward behavior. Higher education institutions in general, including public institutions in Indiana, evaluate faculty performance annually and articulate standards of behavior, violation of which is grounds for dismissal even for tenured faculty.

Without tenure protections, scholars will shy away from daring and innovative research questions. Their scholarship will tilt toward "safe" areas of exploration less likely to generate the breakthroughs characteristic of top research institutions. Their teaching will be similarly cautious. Without tenure, a teacher avoids controversy, including the kinds of issues that students need and want to engage to become future leaders.

By imposing hurdles on new tenured hires, Indiana's public universities will find themselves at a disadvantage in attracting top-level faculty. Whether in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields, humanities, or social sciences, faculty achieve their credentials only after long years of intensive graduate training. They then enter a competitive national job market, in which they may apply for dozens of different positions in as many states. Although academic job markets vary across disciplines, candidates are unlikely to opt for institutions where their research and teaching will not benefit from the academic freedom guaranteed by tenure. Should Indiana's legislature pass this bill, any public university in the state would immediately become an employer of last choice among scholars who desire an environment amenable to high-quality teaching and research.

SB 202 is a danger to both the quality of history education and Indiana's system of public higher education itself. It would inappropriately inject university boards of trustees into decisions about faculty hiring and work responsibilities—an intrusion across the boundary of governance and management in any nonprofit entity.

With more than 11,000 members, the AHA is the largest membership association of professional historians in the world. Founded in 1884 and chartered by Congress in 1889 for the promotion of historical studies, the Association provides leadership for the discipline, helps to sustain and enhance the work of historians, and promotes the imperative of historical thinking in public life.

Everything has a history. If passed, SB 202 would undermine the quality of public education in Indiana by preventing qualified instructors from teaching honest and accurate history in courses that serve the needs of our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Grossman". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

James Grossman, Executive Director



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Indiana's SB 202 holds promise, but needs changes to protect academic freedom
by [Tyler Coward](#)

Published at: <https://www.thefire.org/news/indianas-sb-202-holds-promise-needs-changes-protect-academic-freedom>

February 21, 2024

Today, the Indiana House of Representatives Committee on Education voted to advance [Senate Bill 202](#), which already passed the Indiana Senate by a wide margin earlier this month. SB 202 provides extensive speech protections for both students and faculty, but it also contains significant flaws that legislators must address to protect academic freedom.

Among its helpful provisions, it:

- Prohibits use of political litmus tests in hiring, promotion, tenure, post-tenure review, and admission, using language from FIRE's [Intellectual Freedom Protection Act](#).
- Requires student orientation programming on the importance of free inquiry and free expression.
- Requires institutional and departmental neutrality on political, moral, or ideological issues, similar to the [Kalven Report](#).
- Allows the state commission for higher education to conduct a survey of students about their perceptions of free speech and academic freedom on campus.
- Expressly protects faculty members from retaliatory action based on their research or commentary, including criticism of an institution.

Even with these positive aspects, the bill's harmful provisions require FIRE to oppose this bill unless those provisions are revised.

For instance, SB 202 prohibits an institution from awarding tenure if a faculty member is:

- (1) unlikely to foster a culture of free inquiry, free expression, and intellectual diversity within the institution;
- (2) unlikely to expose students to scholarly works from a variety of political or ideological frameworks that may exist within and are applicable to the faculty member's academic discipline; or
- (3) likely, while performing teaching or mentoring duties within the scope of the faculty member's employment, to subject students to political or ideological views and opinions that are unrelated to the faculty member's academic discipline or assigned course of instruction.

While intellectual diversity within institutions is desirable, this bill goes too far into regulating academic instruction and contains vague standards for faculty evaluation that administrators or departments could too easily abuse.

For instance, what does it mean for a faculty member to be “unlikely to foster a culture of free inquiry?” If Hoosier legislators believe institutions and academic departments lack intellectual diversity, empowering institutions to use ideological assessments of faculty in promotion or tenure decisions could be used to target minority or dissenting voices.

Despite the laudable intention of this section to improve intellectual diversity on Indiana’s public campuses, SB 202 as drafted creates confusion and intrudes too far into the academic freedom rights of faculty.

And faculty applying subsection (2) could use it to force every course into a “survey” approach by prohibiting academics from teaching courses about specific ideologies. Must a professor teaching the Austrian school of economics also teach communist alternatives? Must an American history professor who criticizes the 1619 Project in class also assign readings favorable to the 1619 Project?

Subsection (3) poses vague and overbroad language similar to subsection (1). What if a biology professor penned an op-ed in the student newspaper criticizing a presidential candidate during election season? Under this provision, would that professor face sanctions for subjecting “students to political or ideological views and opinions that are unrelated to the faculty member’s academic discipline?”

Academic freedom also largely protects faculty members’ ability to opine on current events during class, so long as the content is germane to the course or doesn’t occupy a substantial amount of class time.

The bill also requires institutions to establish a procedure for students to report faculty who seem insufficiently committed to intellectual diversity. While student feedback on faculty performance is important, establishing a forum by which students can report faculty for their academic speech is ripe for abuse. This provision will chill robust classroom instruction and discussion to the detriment of the learning environment on campus.

Despite the laudable intention of this section to improve intellectual diversity on Indiana’s public campuses, SB 202 as drafted creates confusion and intrudes too far into the academic freedom rights of faculty.

The legislature must remove or revise these provisions in order to earn FIRE’s support for this bill.

- [Legislation](#)



Legislative Update: Row, Row, Row Your Boat Edition

The Ballad of Harbo and Samuelsen, often performed by once-and-again local band [Hogeye Nabby](#), tells the incredible story of two young Norwegian Americans who, in 1896, became the first people ever to row across an ocean when they paddled across the North Atlantic Ocean in 55 days. 127 years later, their time record has yet to be broken by another rowing duo. To achieve their remarkable feat, Harbo and Samuelsen reportedly rowed 18 hours every day and took turns getting three hours of sleep at night.

That, friends, is but one example of what can be accomplished when we acknowledge that we're all in the same boat. It's a spirit of cooperation for the common good that Indy Chamber members have repeatedly displayed during this legislative session, one we've glimpsed in the actions of some legislators in the Indiana Statehouse boat recently. So, strap on your life jacket and grab an oar! It's time for the Indy Chamber Legislative Update: Row, Row, Row Your Boat edition.

Hands On! Ready, All!

The plucky American rowing team at the center of George Clooney's 2023 film, "The Boys in the Boat," overcame challenges of economics, ego, and experience to "row as one" and beat Italy and Germany for the gold medal at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. Following Tuesday's hearing on [HB 1199](#) in the Senate Tax & Fiscal Policy committee, supporters of the Mile Square Economic Enhancement District (EED) can relate.

Chairman Holdman and bill sponsor Senator Baldwin offered a substantial amendment to HB 1199 this week that was unanimously adopted by the committee, and the bill as amended [no longer seeks to fully repeal](#) the Mile Square EED. For this, we offer our enthusiastic appreciation to the good Senators. The need to muster dedicated resources to invest in the safety and vitality of downtown is critical. Their recognition of that fact and work to keep the discussion alive is a major step towards a sustainable solution.

In its current form, however, we do have a few questions about how the structure would work in practice. The bill would now require a second vote to adopt from the Indianapolis City-County Council; exempt apartments and homesteads from paying the EED fee; grant the Governor an additional appointment to the EED board; change the structure of the district boundaries and funding formula, and prohibit renewal of the EED after a 10-year lifecycle. Conversations will continue with legislators about the best approach to these issues over the next few (and final!) weeks of session.

While there is still a lot of ground to cover before Sine Die, this week's developments are a big win for the [broad coalition](#) behind the Mile Square EED. That coalition includes many Indy Chamber members, who once again demonstrated [robust support](#) for the EED in public [testimony before the committee](#). Those efforts undoubtedly helped save the Mile Square EED boat from fully capsizing, as did the willingness of Chairman Holdman and HB 1199's Senate sponsors to climb aboard and row with us to ensure an EED mechanism remains available to drive dedicated funding to services and investments within the Mile Square.

[Go Back](#)
[Join the Chamber](#)

The Indy Chamber team will continue to work with our partners in the Senate to get the bill in the best possible position to drive solutions for the core of the capital city. We will keep you all apprised of developments.

If it helps, remember that Harbo and Samuelsen first made land at St. Mary's off the south coast of England, rather than their ultimate destination in France. Legend says the residents of St. Mary's gathered in amazement around the two men, who by then could barely walk. "Most men would have stopped then to bask in the glory," the song says, "after having been sunbeaten, capsized and starved. But they were both back in their boat the next morning, and in less than a week they arrived at Le Havre."

In other words: great job crew! Now, get back in the boat and keep rowing.

Iceberg, Right Ahead!

No similar lifeboat appeared for IndyGo Tuesday during the House Roads and Transportation committee's hearing on [SB 52](#). And, even as we take Senator Freeman at this word that all he's seeking in SB 52 is another year to "study" the issue of dedicated lanes for bus rapid transit, let's be clear with regard to the outcome: passage of SB 52 is to the Blue Line what the iceberg was to the Titanic.

From 1912 to 1995, the world assumed the Titanic was sunk by an iceberg ripping a single giant hole in the ship's skull. However, by 1997, researchers studying this ship's wreckage announced a startling discovery: the total area of damage to the Titanic appears to be about 12 to 13 square feet or less than the area of two downtown sidewalk squares. Six small, separate wounds to the Titanic's starboard hull brought down the "unsinkable" ship.

Likewise, Freeman's latest bill doesn't so much rip a giant hole in IndyGo's Blue Line as slice into it at precisely the spots that will cause the Blue Line to sink. Delaying construction of the Blue Line will undoubtedly cause additional cost increases. The federal government has informed IndyGo that the delay and cost increases will cause the Federal Transportation Administration to withdraw \$150 million of grant money it previously pledged to the Blue Line. Loss of federal funds will push the cost of the Blue Line out of reach for IndyGo and the tens of thousands of Marion County residents who voted to increase their own taxes to build projects like the Blue Line in their city. The lack of a robust, affordable, rapid public transit option is also likely to negatively impact Indy's ability to continue attracting NBA All-Star-type events. Local organizers have done a yeoman's job attracting major convention business to Indianapolis, but they're competing with peer cities where public transit is a staple.

To quote [Big Bang Theory's](#) Sheldon Cooper, the ongoing Statehouse squabbles over all things IndyGo leaves the Indy Region floating on "a Native American water vessel without any means of propulsion." At a time when the region has so much going for it — as was on full display this past weekend — we'd like to see legislators and local leaders pulling together on the things we know support a healthy and growing economy, like public transit.

Setting aside the question of whether leaving \$150 million in Federal grant money on the table will cause future grant requests from the state to be taken less seriously, and ignoring the issue of whether it's appropriate for state legislators to interfere with a municipality's ability to implement plans adopted by voters, better public transit is crucial to the Indy Region's ability to level up against stiff competition from our peer cities.

Indy Chamber members will have one last opportunity to keep IndyGo's Blue Line afloat when the House Roads and Transportation committee [reconvenes](#) on Tuesday, February 27, at 10:30 a.m. [Click here](#) to send a message to members of the committee and House Speaker Todd Huston, respectfully urging them to vote "no" on SB 52 and allow the Blue Line to proceed. Or [click here](#) for phone numbers if you'd prefer to leave a polite voicemail message. As with the EED, the voice of Indy's business community may encourage legislators to row with us on this critical issue for the Indy Region's future.

Oxford [University] Blues

The 1984 flick "Oxford Blues" tells the tale of a Las Vegas hustler who cons his way into Oxford University and, subsequently, onto its fabled rowing team to win the affections of a beautiful British aristocrat. Film critics were hard-pressed to find anything positive to say somewhat ambivalent about the movie, which also describes our reaction to [SB 202](#), heard this week in the House Education committee.

In case you missed the bill's [media coverage](#) this past week, SB 202 would establish a post-tenure review process to be conducted every five years and create a policy preventing faculty from gaining tenure or promotions if they are "unlikely to foster a culture of free inquiry, free expression and intellectual diversity within the institution." Under the bill, faculty cannot, at risk of losing tenure, "subject students to political or ideological views and opinions that are unrelated to the faculty member's academic discipline or assigned course of instruction."

The language of SB 202 is carefully couched in terms of "intellectual diversity." But a careful reading, courtesy of our friends at [Indiana Capital Chronicle](#), finds the bill is "strikingly similar to a bill passed in Florida, SB 266, which ended tenure for university faculty in the state by instituting a five-year review for all faculty. The outcome of that review is determined in large part on faculty adherence to the law's ban on teaching about diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). SB 202 simply replaces the term DEI with 'intellectual diversity.'

Bills like SB 202 will, in the long run, create a two-tiered system of higher education across the country where faculty of all disciplines and political persuasions flock to states where tenure remains intact. Attacks on institutions of higher education don't move the ball forward on making Indiana more attractive to the college graduates our workforce desperately needs, or the companies who want to employ them.

[College doesn't make young people liberal](#); it's youth that does that. Here's hoping legislators let this bill drift out to sea and concentrate efforts on accelerating our already thriving state economy towards new levels of competitiveness, rather than letting ideological fights distract us.

Booze cruise, anyone?

Happily, there was a little news out of the Statehouse this week that put some wind in our sails...or at least under the little paper umbrellas in our cocktails. Lawmakers moved closer to ending Indiana's 40-year ban on the social convention known as Happy Hour when the House voted to adopt [HB 1086](#) on Tuesday. They also took a step toward what we're calling "libational diversity" by passing [HB 1025](#), which would put liquor-based ready-to-drink mixed beverages under a wine license, allowing beer wholesalers to sell them. This is the kind of cooperative legislative action that, as the saying goes, really floats our boat.





21 February 2024

Dear Members of the Indiana House Education Committee:

I write on behalf of the Modern Language Association (MLA), the largest disciplinary association in the humanities, to oppose SB 202. The MLA represents 20,000 faculty members in language, literature, writing, and cultural studies who approach teaching in their fields with integrity and professionalism. Advanced degrees in the humanities equip faculty members with the skills to examine deeply works of literature, film, visual arts, and various aspects of culture, from a number of perspectives. There is no single right answer in cultural analysis, as any faculty member in our fields could tell you. Legislating a method of evaluation for faculty members that would impose political criteria on their teaching does not enforce any kind of fairness—it is the antithesis of fairness. Legislation that mandates granting tenure and firing tenured faculty based on how well a faculty member has fostered “intellectual diversity” within the classroom is an excuse for political interference in academic freedom, and it would drive not only faculty members but also Indiana students away from Indiana public institutions of higher education in favor of institutions not subject to ideological controls on instruction.

Please leave education to educators rather than political appointees with political agendas. Tenure and promotion practices are the methods the profession uses to regulate itself, as any profession does. As legislators would not interfere in the regulatory procedures or professional practice of doctors, they should not interfere in the regulatory procedures or professional practice of professors, who, like doctors, lawyers, and other professionals, regularly undergo rigorous evaluation by peers.

I hate to think of my own PhD alma mater, Indiana University, being unable to recruit the top talent that makes it a leading research and teaching university because it has started imposing political litmus tests on faculty members. Faculty members will leave, and those with integrity will not apply to fill their places.

I urge you to support the autonomy of Indiana institutions of higher education and reject SB202. Feel free to contact me should you want additional information about language and literature education in the US and how to maintain its integrity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paula M. Krebs". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Paula M. Krebs
Executive Director

PGSG opposes S.B. 202

BY JULIA BLANDFORD Staff Reporter
Feb 21, 2024

1 of 2



Purdue Graduate Student Government senate chair Josiah Davidson calls to vote on the confirmation of appointment made by executive board members.

Yasemin Parsak | Senior Photographer

Purdue's Graduate Student Government voted in a unanimous decision to issue a resolution opposing state Senate Bill 202 on Wednesday.

S.B. 202 aims for public universities in Indiana to regulate professors' tenure as well as giving the board of trustees at these universities power to maintain "intellectual diversity" among faculty.

The author of the resolution against S.B. 202, and materials engineering senator, Daniel Sinclair, said that one of his main concerns about the bill is that it contains ambiguity regarding definitions of underrepresented student groups.

"S.B. 202 was authored with the intent of increasing the prevalence and status of conservative political and ideological conscience in Indiana universities," Sinclair said.

In addition to the introduction of tenure regulation and lack of comments on diversity and inclusion, S.B. 202 will also grant the government authority to appoint officers in the university's board of trustees.

"(For example), the College of Agriculture has five seats ... appointed by the university; however, this bill requires two offices out of the five seats to be appointed by the state government," diversity team chair Rachel Zhang said.

Zhang expressed her unhappiness with the University Senate's failure to ask for PGSG and other graduate student organizations' opinions.

“At the University Senate discussion this past Monday, faculty have (been) called to voice their concern,” Zhang said. “However, for graduate students this piece is missing, so we were passing legislation as a (way to) help us get our voices expressed.”

Executive Board changed to Executive Officers

PGSG approved a name change from the executive board to executive officers. This legislation proposes for there to be an overlap of the university senate and the university chairs, allowing for it to be possible for one student to be an active participant in both.

“I don’t believe there’s been any conflicts of interest ... especially considering the large number of senators compared to the (smaller) number of committee chairs,” senate chair Josiah Davidson said.



Bill to make Indiana colleges more conservative would cause conformity, fleeing faculty

Hussein Banai

Indianapolis Star

<https://www.indystar.com/story/opinion/columnists/2024/02/16/senate-bill-202-indiana-republicans-want-conservative-universities/72617947007/>

The prospect of [Senate Bill 202](#) becoming law in Indiana has spread panic and alarm through public universities and colleges across the state. The proposed bill would establish governmental oversight of the tenure and promotion process for all faculty at public universities by requiring those institutions to deny, limit, or terminate continued employment to faculty “if certain conditions related to free inquiry, free expression, and intellectual diversity are not met.”

S.B. 202 also establishes a reporting system for students and employees to file complaints against any faculty failing to meet the aforementioned “certain conditions,” and adds two additional alumni representatives on university boards of trustees.

The bill is similar to proposals advanced in other majority-Republican state legislatures — in Florida, Iowa, Louisiana, North Carolina, North Dakota, and Texas — that seek to establish political oversight of tenure and promotion procedures, curriculum planning, and student services at public institutions of higher learning. Such initiatives are part of a concerted effort to curb the expansion of diversity, equity, and inclusion policies and programs that many colleges and universities across the country have adopted.

Sen. Spencer Deery, R-Lafayette, the bill's author, has cited polling data showing 46% of right-leaning students not feeling welcome to express their views on college campuses in Indiana. S.B. 202 would still do very little to alleviate the problem. Worse yet, it would ensure campuses across Indiana become incubators of political correctness and intellectual conformity.

Mandating governmental oversight of “free inquiry, free expression, and intellectual diversity” in order to ensure “certain conditions” are met, as S.B. 202 proposes, is tantamount to political control of state educational institutions by whichever party holds the majority in the state legislature.

In the name of safeguarding free inquiry and cultivating intellectual diversity, S.B. 202 would in practice replace the scholarly and professional basis for employment in higher education with political litmus tests. Disciplinary panels composed of political appointees (prodded by advocacy groups and partisan media), not double-blind scientific reviews, will determine whether a member of faculty is deserving of continued employment at a public university or college in Indiana.



However much Deery may wish to downplay the intended and unforeseen consequences of establishing political oversight of public universities in Indiana, the implications will be profound and far-reaching for the state and its workforce, not just the integrity of higher education. Faculty with public-facing scholarship and high-impact research will be among the first to leave the state, lest they become targets of frivolous campaigns by political groups whose values and aims might be at odds with scholarship on any given subject. This will result in a chilling effect on the teaching and research of faculty across the board, with more faculty opting to forego the teaching of any subject or pursuit of any research topic that may run afoul of the “certain conditions” set by the governmental overseers of employment and advancement.

The net effect is an educational setting devoid of intellectual rigor or depth, let alone diversity of curiosities and perspectives.

Historical and contemporary examples of such purposefully diminished intellectual spaces abound: from Communist Party-controlled university curriculum in China, to routine dismissals of free-thinking faculty in Islamist-controlled universities in Iran, to countless suspensions, intimidations, and even forced migrations of academics at the behest of political strongmen in Russia, Turkey, Hungary, to countless other similar or worse cases across the globe.

Why the dangers posed by direct political control of state educational institutions shouldn't be obvious to Deery and other supporters of S.B. 202 itself begs a further question as to why a political party that enjoys the supermajority control of the state legislature, the governorship, both U.S. Senate seats, and 7 out of 9 seats in congress should feel so alarmed by the state of intellectual diversity on its college campuses.

Perhaps it is because they are among the last remaining intellectual spaces where issues pertaining to diversity and merit are still openly debated, without fear or favor.

Hussein Banai is associate professor of international studies at the Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies at Indiana University in Bloomington.

COMMENTARY

<https://indianacapitalchronicle.com/2024/02/19/senate-bill-202-what-exactly-is-intellectual-diversity/>

Senate Bill 202: What Exactly is “Intellectual Diversity?”

RUSS SKIBA

FEBRUARY 19, 2024 7:00 AM

A great deal of the [discussion around Senate Bill 202](#) has focused on its impact on university faculty, potentially the loss of tenure. But, with apologies to my friends in the academy, that is not the most important and most dangerous provision of the bill.

The central revision of current law in SB 202 takes all instances of the phrase *cultural diversity* and modifies them to read *cultural and intellectual diversity*. On the face of it, that seems a harmless addition. Who after all could be opposed to intellectual diversity?

But what exactly is the target of this effort to make “intellectual diversity” a central organizing principle, important enough that the state is willing to fire any professor, even those who are tenured, for violating it? It seems likely that it’s about more than freedom of expression for English literature scholars who might differ over the proper translation of Chaucer.

No, SB 202 is clearly intended to limit the ability of educational communities—in this case higher education— to talk about race. The bill is strikingly similar to a bill passed in Florida, [SB 266](#), which ended tenure for university faculty in that state by instituting a five year review for all faculty. The outcome of that review is determined in large part on faculty adherence to the law’s ban on teaching about DEI. SB 202 simply replaces the term DEI with “intellectual diversity.” Politically astute, but also deeply disingenuous.

In early September 2020, Christopher Rufo appeared on Fox News and directly appealed to then President Trump to ban critical race theory from government or government-supported trainings. Since that moment, critical race theory and diversity, equity, and inclusion have been among the top priorities of right-wing legislators across the nation. Like the right-wing campaign against critical race theory, terms like “intellectual diversity” and “hostile learning environment” have been purposefully employed by right wing intellectuals to attack the academy by using [“the language that the left has deployed so effectively on behalf of its own agendas.”](#)

Diversity is the target

Proponents of SB 202 and [copycat legislation](#) in other states argue that they are protecting the rights of DEI opponents in danger of being silenced in university communities that value diversity. But those who have lost their jobs and been driven from their communities as a result

of the anti-DEI campaign have not been opponents of CRT, but advocates for cultural diversity and racial justice.

Superintendents, such as the [first Black superintendent](#) in Berkeley County, South Carolina who was fired as part of an anti-CRT campaign by Moms for Liberty backed school board members. [James Whitfield](#), driven from his position as principal of the high school in Colleyville, Texas after he wrote a letter to students opposing systemic racism after George Floyd's murder. Teachers in states where these bills have passed, who can be [stripped of their teaching licenses](#) and see their school lose its accreditation if they speak their mind about racism and discrimination.

Like HB 1138 before it, SB 202 is grounded in an unfortunate tradition of attempting to silence those who speak out against racial injustice. Slaveholders at the Constitutional convention succeeded in removing [the words "slave" or "slavery"](#) from the Constitution, and disallowed any attempt to raise the topic in Congress for 20 years. The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. was repeatedly jailed and [branded a Communist by FBI Director](#) J. Edgar Hoover for the "crime" of challenging the deeply ensconced racism of White America in the 50's and 60's.

The code word "intellectual diversity," like all attempts to silence talk about current or historical racism, is not about the free speech of those who are seeking to erase DEI from college campuses. Those voices, having passed anti-CRT bills [in over 20 states](#) across the nation, are in no danger of being silenced. Rather, SB 202 is yet another not-very-transparent attempt on the part of the minority to hide their increasing targeting of marginalized groups in our state and nation — by making it illegal for University educators to talk about historical and current discrimination.

By providing a vehicle for hiding racist actions, SB 202 is itself deeply racist. It would truly be a source of shame for our state if the General Assembly mandates silence about justice, fairness, and equity in higher education in the state of Indiana.

[RUSS SKIBA](#)

Dr. Russ Skiba is Professor Emeritus at Indiana University and former Director of the Equity Project at Indiana University. His research focuses on school violence and school discipline, particularly racial/ethnic disparities in suspension and expulsion. He has testified before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and both houses of Congress. He co-founded the University Alliance for Racial Justice, a group of university-based educators dedicated to supporting the struggle against discrimination and disadvantage, and helped establish the Indiana Educational Equity network, a statewide coalition devoted to educational equity for Indiana's youth. The most recent Education Week poll identified Skiba as one of the top 200 scholars in the nation influencing educational policy.

Bill's proposals would stifle academic freedoms

Noor Borbieva O'Neill and Steven Carr
Feb 21, 2024

Senate Bill 202 purports to protect academic freedom and diverse viewpoints, but it will have the opposite effect.

The bill increases the power of political appointees on boards of trustees, greenlights chilling ideological surveillance of faculty and students, undermines basic tenure protections for faculty — the long-term job security that allows educators to promote the free flow of ideas in the classroom without fear of retaliation — and defunds programs that make campuses more inclusive of diverse Hoosiers.

Less obvious but just as concerning, the bill requires the creation of a huge bureaucracy to carry out the surveillance, policing and ideological litmus testing it decrees.

SB 202 gives political leaders and institutions control over “cultural and intellectual diversity” on campuses. In other words, it further politicizes a sector (public higher education) that was created and invested in as a public good, that citizens of our state and our democratic nation depend on to serve as a free space where political platforms and issues can be scrutinized, challenged and improved.

One of the unintended consequences of SB 202 is creating fear on campuses that will chill free speech. By instituting ideological scrutiny in tenure and post-tenure review of faculty, it will pit faculty against faculty and faculty against students.

As the Indiana University-Bloomington and Purdue University-West Lafayette chapters note in their statement, it took a century to build a public higher education system in Indiana that is the envy of educators across the nation and around the world. This system has brought economic, scientific, cultural and health benefits to Hoosiers, building a cutting-edge workforce of skilled graduates that has attracted industry, enterprise, and cultural entities to the state. It has considerably more to offer.

Maintaining that profile is dependent on our ability to draw top-quality faculty. Indiana’s exceptional success could be quickly and permanently lost if SB 202 eliminates the academic freedom that outstanding faculty consider essential to their careers and that nurtures the intellectual vitality that keeps our top young Hoosier students studying in their home state.

The bills’ promoters have sincere concerns about ideological diversity on campuses. We share their passion for free speech, and we will join them in their efforts to protect public campuses’ ability to promote free and diverse intellectual activity, but not in the way this bill does so.

Through its vague language, redundant bureaucracy and elevation of the well-being of specific student populations over others, this bill will have far-reaching and devastating unintended consequences for our public universities and colleges.

This is your final free story during this 30-day period.

We urge legislators to listen to educators — those of us who are on the ground in these classrooms — about the potential way these policy changes around free speech and diversity could play out. We call on business leaders, entrepreneurs, health care leaders, cultural institutions and citizens who benefit every day from our universities’ outstanding contributions to communicate their opposition to SB 202.

Noor Borbieva O'Neill is a professor of anthropology and **Steven Carr** is graduate program director and professor of communication at Purdue University Fort Wayne.

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GUEST | Opinion *This piece expresses the views of its author(s), separate from those of this publication.*

Column: Supporters say bill will protect diverse views. In fact, it will do the opposite.

Jake Mattox South Bend Tribune

Published 2:33 p.m. ET Feb. 23, 2024 | Updated 4:33 p.m. ET Feb. 23, 2024

The Indiana legislature is about to vote on Senate Bill 202, supposedly in the interest of protecting diverse viewpoints on public university campuses. It will actually do the opposite and heralds the biggest revision to higher education in our state since the GI Bill. This bill is being rushed through a short legislative session, usually reserved for “emergency” bills and clean-up legislation. It will harm students, our campuses and the state as a whole. Our representatives need to hear from us immediately.

The bill imposes partisan review mechanisms, drastically altering an established system that has drawn students and faculty from around the world precisely because our classrooms have been largely protected from the influence of politicians. The bill would install a chilling system of government influence and ideological surveillance limiting open discourse, discussion and debate.

Why should all Hoosiers care about a bill that seems to address only those teaching at public universities? Because it would radically change our university system, which has brought so many benefits in economics, science, culture and health. It has nurtured the intellectual vitality that keeps our Hoosier students studying in their home state and joining a cutting-edge workforce that attracts industry.

More: Bill to make Indiana colleges more conservative would cause conformity, fleeing faculty

The bill’s supporters have failed to provide evidence that there is a problem, instead making broad claims about conservative students feeling unable to express themselves on our campuses. In fact, the Indiana Commission on Higher Education’s 2023 Campus Free Speech Report, based on surveys sent to every single student, found that only 6% overall had such concerns. And a recent essay in the Chronicle of Higher Education suggested that free-speech issues felt by students come more from peer pressure, not professors. So why institute such sweeping changes?

One answer: The bill’s sponsor, state Sen. Spencer Deery (District 23), essentially admitted that the bill is an attack on the tenure system, citing the “dead wood” of tenured faculty who need to be

cleaned out. Yet the often-misunderstood system of tenure has been essential to our universities for more than a century. It has not meant that professors can coast, do whatever they want, and are not held accountable. Instead, it has provided a shield from political influence so that faculty can pursue their teaching and research without interference or retaliation from any party in power or from other outside interests. Universities need to be outside those partisan influences, since they depend upon the free and unfettered flow of new ideas.

If this bill passes, our respected universities will be significantly weakened, as current faculty look to leave and top new faculty stay away. This is happening right now in other states that have passed similar legislation, such as Florida, Texas and Georgia. This then harms the state's economy. Higher education is a major economic driver — Indiana University alone created \$9.9 billion in added income for Indiana in fiscal year 2019-2020 — and faculty staying away or fleeing can take large STEM and other research grants with them, which can also harm university/business partnerships. Furthermore, the bill imposes a new and unfunded economic burden on our universities. Indiana University, just one of our institutions, estimates it will cost \$3.7 million per year to implement post-tenure review and reporting processes.

The bill is on the House agenda for Monday, with a possible final vote on Tuesday. Instead of rushing this bill through, it would be wise to take more time to investigate if there really is a problem and if so, craft a more measured response. Business, health care and cultural leaders — and individual Hoosiers — need to be heard by calling their local representatives and asking them to oppose this harmful bill.

Jake Mattox teaches literature and writing at Indiana University, South Bend, and he leads the IUSB chapter of the American Association of University Professors. He lives in Mishawaka.

STOP SB202 Fact Sheet

The fast advancing **Indiana Senate Bill 202** could have devastating impacts on public higher education in Indiana by **increasing government interference** and **restricting academic freedom** on Indiana campuses.

Touted as necessary to foster a climate of “intellectual diversity” that is presumably lacking on Indiana campuses, it sets forth a series of measures that mandating pre- and post-tenure reviews by the Board of Trustees to take place at least every five years. It charges the Trustees with identifying those “unlikely to foster a culture of free inquiry, free expression, and intellectual diversity within the institution,” which are grounds for dismissal.

The effects of the bill are incredibly broad. The Indiana Conference of the American Association of University Professors (INAAUP) notes that it would:

1. Give politicians power over faculty in the classroom and in their research;
2. Make it harder to recruit and retain top faculty;
3. Threaten researchers’ ability to receive federal funding on many topics where the “broader impact” of the research is assessed;
4. Threaten accreditation of medical and nursing schools which have DEI components in order to demonstrate the ability to provide care to all Hoosiers;
5. Reduce freedom of students and faculty to discuss ideas across the ideological spectrum;
6. Increase work for Boards of Trustees, administrators, and faculty committees, who will now have to review hundreds of faculty dossiers every year;
7. Reduce alumni representation on Boards of Trustees at Ball State, Indiana University, Indiana State University, Purdue University, University of Southern Indiana;
8. additional unfunded reporting mechanisms and bureaucracy, thus burdening administrations, and staff professionals. Indiana Legislature Fiscal Office indicates that it will significantly increase the workload of all campus employees: \$3.7 million at IU alone.

Indiana Research-1 Universities: National Ranking

Social Science Doctorates, 2021

1	UCLA	96
2	Wisconsin	91
3	Columbia	88
4	Harvard	85
5	Minn.	81
5	CUNY	81

Arts & Humanities Doctorates, 2021

1	IUB	174
2	Columbia	139
3	Texas	138
4	CUNY	135
5	Illinois-C-U	121

STEM Doctorates, 2021

1	Purdue	635
2	Michigan	628
3	Stanford	619
4	Illinois-C-U	610
5	Texas A&M	567

“Other” Doctorates, 2021

1	USC	370
2	Rutgers	324
3	Ohio St.	304
4	VCU	257
5	Duke	251

Purdue University and Indiana University are nationally ranked for awarding doctorates in STEM and Arts & Humanities. In Fall 2022, approximately 78% of Purdue and IU’s graduate students were from out-of-state. SB202 will lead to decreased enrollment in graduate programs.

Top ranked R1 Universities in terms of doctorates awarded
 Source: Carnegie Classifications (“2021 Update Public File”)

<https://inaaup.wordpress.com/sb-202-resources/>

SENATE BILL No. 202

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning higher education.

A CITIZEN'S GUIDE

Lea Bishop, Professor of Law

Affiliated Fellow, Yale Information Society Project

Written in her personal capacity and not on behalf of any Indiana University.

Should Indiana's universities become more Republican? The state's senate thinks so.

Senate Bill 202 mandates political performance reviews of teachers, researchers, and clinicians. It also allows investigation of student and employee political views.

Walking back the state's commitment to Black and Hispanic students, the bill refocuses DEI on boosting conservative views on campus.

Departing from a 132-year tradition of Indiana alumni electing their own university Trustees, the bill hands this power over to two top Republican office holders.

In the name of "intellectual diversity," single-party boards of Trustees will decide which tenured faculty should be fired, with no due process guarantees.

This primer explains key passages from the 56-page bill passed in February 7, 2024 and suggests discussion questions for teachers ahead of a voting in the house.

1. **Revision of Higher Education Diversity Goals** - page 2
2. **Definition of "Intellectual Diversity"** - page 3
3. **Cancelling Trustee Elections** - page 4
4. **New Powers to Discipline and Dismiss** - page 5
5. **Ideological Evaluation of P&T Candidates** - page 6
6. **Political Review of Tenured Faculty** - page 7
7. **Gauging Student and Employee Politics** - page 8
8. **Discussion Questions** – page 9 & 10

Revision of Higher Education Diversity Goals

From page 15 of Indiana SB 202, passed February 7, 2024.

- | | |
|----|--|
| 13 | (1) Review and recommend faculty employment policies concerning cultural and intellectual diversity issues. |
| 14 | |
| 15 | (2) Review faculty and administration personnel complaints concerning cultural and intellectual diversity issues. |
| 16 | |
| 17 | (3) Make recommendations to promote and maintain cultural and intellectual diversity among faculty members. |
| 18 | |
| 19 | (4) Make recommendations to promote recruitment and retention of minority underrepresented students. |
| 20 | |

Editor's comments:

1. "Intellectual diversity" is the animating goal of SB 202, appearing 30+ times in the 56-page bill. An appropriate name for the bill would have been "An Act to Promote Intellectual Diversity in Higher Education."
2. Later portions of the bill place much greater emphasis on intellectual diversity than on cultural diversity. "Cultural diversity" is not defined in SB 202 or the Indiana Code, nor is this phrase commonly used on in.gov websites. Would you take it to refer to multiculturalism, or to inclusion of cultural conservatives?
3. When a term in a law is open to conflicting interpretations, it can be (re)defined by later legislation or by government agency [rulemaking](#). Until that time, SB 202 authorizes university trustees to interpret the term as they see fit.
4. "Minority" is defined by the Indiana Code to mean Black and Hispanic. The Indiana Commission on Higher Education uses "underrepresented" more broadly to include minority students, low-income students, first-generation students, rural students, and women in STEM fields.

Definition of “Intellectual Diversity”

From page 22 of Indiana SB 202, passed February 7, 2024..

23 **Sec. 5. "Intellectual diversity" means multiple, divergent, and**
 24 **varied scholarly perspectives on an extensive range of public policy**
 25 **issues.**

Editor’s comments:

5. If Ayn Rand and Toni Morrison apply for the same faculty job, which hire would better promote “intellectual diversity?” Does Section 5 provide a definite answer, or is “intellectual diversity” in the eye of the beholder?
6. If SB 202 becomes a law, the term “intellectual diversity” must be interpreted according to its past usage, not what faculty believe it *should mean* or what legislators *thought* it would mean. The term is not used on any in.gov website.
7. The phrase “intellectual diversity” has been used for twenty years to call for the intentional promotion of far-right political views on college campuses.
8. The term was coined by political activist [David Horowitz](#), whose [Freedom Center](#) “combats the efforts of the radical left and its Islamist allies to destroy American values.” While the term can certainly be used by people who reject Horowitz’s [radical views](#), it implies a negative view of traditional diversity efforts.
9. Legal scholar Stanley Fish, a fan of David Horowitz, has written: “[I]t is not the abstraction ‘diversity’ people fight for, but a condition of diversity that is more expansive than the present one, and expansive in a particular, favored direction. Raising the banner of diversity usually means let me and my friends in, not let everyone in.”
10. Does this additional information change your answer to question 5?

Cancellation of Trustee Elections

From page 8 of Indiana SB 202 passed February 7, 2024.

20 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 2. The board of trustees is
 21 composed of nine (9) trustees ~~appointed by the governor~~ as follows:
 22 (1) Seven (7) competent individuals, one (1) of whom must be a
 23 student, **appointed by the governor.**
 24 ~~(2) Two (2) competent individuals who are alumni of Indiana~~
 25 ~~State University nominated by the alumni council of Indiana State~~
 26 ~~University.~~
 27 **(2) One (1) member who:**
 28 **(A) is appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate**
 29 **with advice from the minority leader of the senate;**
 30 **(B) is an alumnus of Indiana State University; and**
 31 **(C) is not a member of the general assembly.**
 32 **(3) One (1) member who:**
 33 **(A) is appointed by the speaker of the house of**
 34 **representatives with advice from the minority leader of the**
 35 **house of representatives;**
 36 **(B) is an alumnus of Indiana State University; and**
 37 **(C) is not a member of the general assembly.**

Editor's comments:

1. Similar language within the bill applies to other state universities.
2. [Since 1892, Indiana University has had 3 trustees chosen by alumni](#) and 6 chosen by the governor. Harvard has had 30 alumni-electees since 1642.
3. Indiana's trustees have the final say on every university policy, contract, hire, and tenure decision. They can choose to be hands-off or micro-manage. They can fire the president and can suggest the president fire anyone below them.

New Powers to Discipline, Demote, and Dismiss

From page 21 of Indiana SB 202 passed February 7, 2024.

6 **(d) The institution shall adopt a policy that establishes**
 7 **disciplinary actions, including:**
 8 **(1) termination;**
 9 **(2) demotion;**
 10 **(3) salary reduction;**
 11 **(4) other disciplinary action as determined by the institution;**
 12 **or**
 13 **(5) any combination of subdivisions (1) through (4);**
 14 **that the institution will take if the board of trustees determines in**
 15 **a review conducted under subsection (a) that a tenured faculty**
 16 **member has failed to meet one (1) or more of the criteria described**
 17 **in subsection (a)(1) through (a)(5).**

Editor's comments:

1. Wherever the law refers to "the board of trustees," it is also implied: "or their approved delegates." Likely, the trustees would delegate the house and senate leaders' new trustees to lead the committees developing these policies.
2. The (d)(4) language places no limits on punishment. SB 202 does not require giving the faculty member advance notice, providing written reasons for the dismissal, any amount of dismissal pay, decision, or dismissal pay.
3. This only requirement is that trustee-approved policies must exist to punish, demote, dismiss, and cut pay of faculty that decisionmakers created by the policy feel do too little to support "intellectual diversity."

Political Evaluation of P&T Candidates

From page 15 of Indiana SB 202, passed on February 7, 2024

36 **Chapter 2. Tenure, Promotion, Employment, Complaints, and**
 37 **Disciplinary Actions**
 38 **Sec. 1. (a) This section applies to an institution that grants**
 39 **tenure or promotions to faculty members.**
 40 **(b) Each board of trustees of an institution shall establish a**
 41 **policy that provides that a faculty member may not be granted**
 42 **tenure or a promotion by the institution if, based on past**
 1 **performance or other determination by the board of trustees, the**
 2 **faculty member is:**
 3 **(1) unlikely to foster a culture of free inquiry, free expression,**
 4 **and intellectual diversity within the institution;**
 5 **(2) unlikely to expose students to scholarly works from a**
 6 **variety of political or ideological frameworks that may exist**
 7 **within and are applicable to the faculty member's academic**
 8 **discipline; or**
 9 **(3) likely, while performing teaching or mentoring duties**
 10 **within the scope of the faculty member's employment, to**
 11 **subject students to political or ideological views and opinions**
 12 **that are unrelated to the faculty member's academic**
 13 **discipline or assigned course of instruction.**

Editor's comments:

11. "Faculty" includes administrators, teachers, researchers, and clinicians, including those who provide health care services at IU hospitals.
12. Because (1), (2), and (3) are linked by "or" a faculty member who fails any one of these criteria will not be allowed to advance in their academic career.
13. The use of "un/likely" means faculty can be punished for something they have never done, if a Trustee suspects they will do that thing in the future.
14. If "intellectual diversity" does indeed mean promoting conservative politics, part (1) could be used to reject any non-conservative candidate.

Political Review of Tenured Faculty

From page 21 of Indiana SB 202, passed on February 7, 2024.

14 **Sec. 2. (a) Not later than five (5) years after the date that a**
 15 **faculty member is granted tenure by an institution and not later**
 16 **than every five (5) years thereafter, the board of trustees of an**
 17 **institution shall review and determine whether the faculty member**
 18 **has:**
 19 **(1) helped the institution foster a culture of free inquiry, free**
 20 **expression, and intellectual diversity within the institution;**
 21 **(2) introduced students to scholarly works from a variety of**
 22 **political or ideological frameworks that may exist within the**
 23 **faculty member's academic discipline or within courses the**
 24 **faculty member has taught;**
 25 **(3) while performing teaching or mentoring duties within the**
 26 **scope of the faculty member's employment, refrained from**
 27 **subjecting students to views and opinions concerning matters**
 28 **not related to the faculty member's academic discipline or**
 29 **assigned course of instruction;**
 30 **(4) adequately performed academic duties and obligations;**
 31 **and**
 32 **(5) met any other criteria established by the board of trustees.**

Editor's comments:

15. This section extends the same political performance standards to clinicians, administrators, researchers, and teachers who currently enjoy tenure.

16. S 202 says that Trustees may not invoke 2(a)(4) to punish dissent, research, public commentary, criticism of leadership, or personal political activities.

17. Room remains to do so under section 2(a)(5), which reserves to the trustees an unlimited power to dismiss tenured faculty on any grounds.

18. These reviews may be scheduled more frequently. Elsewhere, SB 202 calls for these criteria to be applied annually in each department, influencing bonuses.

Political Evaluation of Employees and Students

From pages 24 and 26 of Indiana SB 202 passed on February 7, 2024.

11 **Chapter 3. Requirements Regarding Students, Employees,**
 12 **Contractors, and Applicants**
 13 **Sec. 1. (a) This section applies to the following:**
 14 **(1) An applicant for admission, enrollment, or employment at**
 15 **an institution.**

24 **Chapter 6. Construction and Enforcement**
 25 **Sec. 1. Nothing in this article may be construed to do the**
 26 **following:**
 27 **(1) Preclude efforts to gauge an applicant's commitment,**
 28 **plans, or past performance in fostering intellectual diversity.**

Editor's comments:

1. This text anticipates and permits – but does not require – consideration of your expressed (or suspected) political views when you apply for admission, reenrollment, financial aid, or employment at an Indiana university.
2. This language is broad enough to permit universities to:
 - a. Prefer conservatives in hiring, admissions, and financial aid.
 - b. Ask you to indicate your political views on the application.
 - c. Ask about your political views during an interview.
 - d. Infer whether you are conservative from your appearance.
3. Hoosiers are not protected against discrimination based on political views, party membership, or sexual orientation. It is illegal to discriminate on race, religion, and gender, etc. However, proving discrimination is incredibly tricky, and financially unrealistic for workers or students to pursue.

Discussion Questions

1. Do you think that SB 202 is “likely to foster a culture of free inquiry and free expression?” Why or why not?
2. In 1915, the trustees of Wharton Business School dismissed popular professor Scott Nearing because local business leaders objected to his radical views on child labor. At that time, activists were fighting to reduce the workweek limit for children to 52 hours. Nearing believed - scandalously - that all children should be in school. His scholarly research identified that child labor laws would work only alongside school meals, vocational schools, and a minimum wage for adults. What should we learn from this story? Do you know other stories like it?
3. Law school faculty at IU-Indianapolis celebrated Constitution Day by organizing a political debate for their students. During the event, campus lawyers sent an email warning about engaging in “activism.” Some students took the email to mean they could lose scholarships for voicing opinions. Later that year, both pro-life and pro-choice law students were limited in their ability to organize events by campus rules that prohibit unauthorized gatherings and literature. Will SB 202 fix this?
4. University researchers can be a valuable source of information for voters or policymakers. Indiana’s current Republican governor, Eric Holcomb is credited with a strong response to COVID, relying on advice by the universities’ medical experts. More recently, however, Attorney General Todd Rokita [breached ethics](#) to threaten an IU professor who publicly commented on a policy priority of his. As a citizen, are there any other politically controversial issues where you want your state’s experts to be able to speak freely?
5. Former Governor Mitch Daniels’ own trustees made him leader at Purdue, where he authorized the for-profit [Kaplan University](#), owned by a Republican megadonor, to use the Purdue brand. Purdue Global now has an F rating with the BBB and [is \\$127.8 million in debt](#). Could SB 202 be abused to quiet faculty criticism?

Of Special Interest to Faculty

6. Tenure was invented in Germany and made their universities top in the world; American scholars studied German to keep up with research. In 1933, Hitler complained professors were too liberal, and dismissed 20%. Many of these refugee scholars landed at institutions in America. What should we learn from this story?
7. Former Governor Mitch Daniels wrote, "[How the Tenure Trap Paralyzes Higher Education](#)" urging state legislatures to fire tenured professors. Should we be worried that SB 202 is a back door to accomplish that goal?
8. What incentives do the trustees have to develop a policy with safeguards to ensure fairness, prevent discrimination, protect freedom of speech and research, and avoid retaliation? One that leaves them the most room to act? How much negotiating power does the faculty have?
9. In 2017, the North Carolina legislature enacted [a statute](#) that is philosophically similar to Indiana SB 202 but vastly less radical. The state has experienced [mounting political influence over its public universities](#). In Georgia, where politicians have "[weaponized](#)" [post-tenure review](#), 28% were looking for jobs out-of-state; 33% plan to leave academia, and 65% do not recommend their university,
10. What would be most powerful to ensure fairness to current faculty and prevent recruitment and retention problems?
 - a. Right to a review by department peers;
 - b. Eliminating ideological evaluation;
 - c. Eliminating campus influence over P&T;
 - d. Making the policy development meetings open-door;
 - e. Requiring policies to be publicized 90 days before a vote;
 - f. Strengthening campus anti-discrimination policies;
 - g. Guaranteed health insurance to departing faculty;
 - h. Two years' notice before dismissing faculty;
 - i. Severance pay guarantees;
 - j. Public reports regarding faculty discipline rates;
 - k. Ability of Faculty Council to reverse discipline;
 - l. The right to appeal discipline to a court of law;
 - m. Splitting Trustee appointments on Hoosier party lines
 - n. Legislative redistricting
 - o. Electing a new governor
 - p. A faculty union

February 2024

Moira Marsh
Indiana University-Bloomington
littlest_kiwi@hotmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Moira Marsh
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Jake Mattox
Indiana University-South Bend
mattoxjd@gmail.com

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Colleen Wynn
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ccowen@iupui.edu

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Rania Mousa
University of Evansville
rm190@evansville.edu

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Rania Mousa
University of Evansville

February 2024

Sheron Fraser-Burgess
Indiana State University
sfraserburgess@gmail.com

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sheron Fraser-Burgess
Indiana State University

February 2024

Patricia Basile
Indiana University-Bloomington
pdetoled@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Patricia Basile
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Lindsey Eberman
Indiana State University
doctor.e.2714@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Lindsey Eberman
Indiana State University

February 2024

Scott Robeson
Indiana University-Bloomington
scott.m.robeson@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Scott Robeson
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Gregory Steel
Indiana University-Kokomo
gregorys@gregorysteel.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Gregory Steel
Indiana University-Kokomo

February 2024

Lindsey Ogle
Ball State University
lindsey.n.ogle@gmail.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. Indiana has three of the most highly respected teacher preparation programs in the country at Indiana University, Ball State University, and Purdue University. Students from all over the country and all over the world come to Indiana universities to be educated by our world renowned faculty. This bill unnecessarily risks that reputation and may impair our ability to recruit and retain the type of faculty that make up these highly successful and respected programs.

As a professor and special education teacher educator, I feel a profound responsibility to prepare our future teachers to meet the complex needs and identities of their future students in a way that is inclusive, ethical, and kind. This bill, as I understand it, would require me to teach outdated models of education and disability that would be actively harmful to Hoosier students. Just because there is "intellectual diversity" in a field does not make those ideas equal. For example, people with disabilities used to be completely segregated from society and warehoused in institutions or outright murdered in places like Nazi era Germany. Ideologies based on eugenics and separation should vehemently be opposed and not presented as an equal ethical option to our future special education teachers in this state.

Furthermore, SB 202 may risk the accreditation of our teacher education programs that require that we prepare our future educators to understand the complex, intersectional identities of their students and their families so that they can be more effective educators. This means our future teachers need to understand the impact and how to design their educational approaches to be sensitive to the racial/ethnic identity, rurality/urbanicity, socioeconomic status, disability, and cultural identity on their future students so that they can be more effective teachers. I hope we can all agree that every student in this state regardless of who they are, what disabilities they may have, or what communities and cultural identities they may identify with deserve an effective and kind teacher who can support them to achieve their maximum potential in whatever their goals are in life. We are facing many complex challenges in this state in education including a lack of qualified teachers in special education and significant learning loss following the pandemic. I ask for your support in helping me and my teacher education colleagues across the state to meet these complex challenges. I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202 so that the world renowned teacher preparation programs we have in this state can maintain their accreditation and reputation and continue to work with you in addressing the many complex challenges we face in this state.

Best regards,

Lindsey Ogle, Ball State University

February 2024

Craig ParÃ©
DePauw University
cpare@depauw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Craig ParÃ©
DePauw University

February 2024

Michael Begnal
Ball State University
beigleinn@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote No on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Michael Begnal
Ball State University

February 2024

Steven Carr
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
carrsa@att.net

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Steven Carr
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Jennifer Kaufmann-Buhler
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jkbuhler@gmail.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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The bill reconfigures and restructures the board of trustees, decreasing the presence of alumni in favor of members selected by the assembly. This will make our board of trustees more sensitive to the whims of political pressure rather than the genuine needs of the institution.

This bill will also harm the culture and climate of our institutions, sowing distrust among faculty, administration, and students. The bill relies on students reporting their professors but evaluations are incredibly biased, particularly against women and faculty of color, who will then be targeted unfairly. Faculty may even be penalized for teaching essential or foundational ideas and concepts in their respective fields if those ideas are deemed controversial by their students.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jennifer Kaufmann-Buhler, Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Indigo Koslicki
Ball State University
wkoslicki@bsu.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I'm writing to ask you to vote No on SB 202.

While it uses the language of diversity and inclusion, SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and negatively impact faculty and students across the political spectrum. Its vague and contradictory language contributes to an environment of fear in the classroom, where faculty will be hesitant to cover many ideas and frameworks for fear of being reported by students or negatively evaluated by the Board of Trustees for not covering the broad array of ideological/political frameworks that "may" (as the bill states) be related to their disciplines.

By placing tenure and post-tenure review evaluations in the hands of the Board of Trustees - which will be further politicized by replacing alumni-council nominated members with legislative appointees - tenure's protections will be eroded by requiring a body with little to no familiarity with a faculty member's discipline to evaluate their "political/ideological diversity" covered in the classroom. For strongly partisan legislatures such as in Indiana, this is particularly alarming, and supporters of the bill should ask themselves whether they would be comfortable with it if the other party were the legislative majority. While proponents of the bill also argue that it is the first to enshrine protections into tenure, this is disingenuous, as Ball State University and other public Indiana universities already possess strong policies regarding the termination of tenure for cause - none of which (at least at Ball State) include speaking out against administration or engaging in political activism with one's own personal time and resources.

Additionally, the complaint mechanism set up by the bill threatens faculty members across the political spectrum, as students may report conservative faculty members just as much as liberal faculty for not "exposing them to diverse ideological and political frameworks". Rather than inviting students to grapple with a variety of ideas that they may disagree with as mature adults, this bill seems to approach students as a population to be coddled and protected from any idea that brings them discomfort, as if the politicized insult of "snowflake" is now a goal of higher education. Ultimately, passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, create an unwelcoming environment for students and faculty, and create a massive budgetary and administrative burden for public Indiana universities. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely,
Dr. Indigo Koslicki
Associate Professor of Criminal Justice and Criminology

Best regards,

Indigo Koslicki
Ball State University

February 2024

Elizabeth Mannir
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
heyprofessor@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

As a limited term (non-tenure track) professor in Indiana for over a decade, I'm asking you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will negatively politicize the classroom environment for conservative *and* liberal students and professors alike.

It will also burden Indiana taxpayers by creating **unnecessary additional bureaucracy** within our universities.

Indiana's schools already have internal procedures to do the work proposed by SB 202. The bill offers no resources for the costly new regulations it proposes. If our state lawmakers are interested in fiscal responsibility and small government, I can think of dozens of ways our tax-funded education budget dollars could be put to better use.

Passing this bill would damage the reputation of universities and our state.

It is poorly crafted political grandstanding and an affront to all taxpaying Hoosiers.

I oppose SB 202 for these reasons, and hope you and all our elected representatives, regardless of party, will do the same.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Mannir
Fort Wayne

Best regards,

Elizabeth Mannir
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Alex Tanford
Indiana University-Bloomington
tanford@indiana.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Can we slow down SB 202?

Dear Rep. Behning,

I am a Bloomington faculty member urging that you slow down SB202. Rightly or wrongly, it is being perceived as an attack on the universities and our traditions of free inquiry, discussion and research. It is harming our national reputation and hurting our ability to recruit and hire new faculty. With some consultation with the universities, I believe it can be turned into a bipartisan bill that addresses public concerns that some voices are not being heard -- from progressives to conservatives, from Blacks and Latinos to members of religious groups -- without being perceived as hostile to universities.

Already some of our faculty have accepted offers from other universities. Some candidates are turning us down because of the bill. If rushed through without university support, I fear it will do permanent damage to IU. We are only as good as the faculty we can attract and keep.

I therefore ask that you consider sending it to a study committee and bring a better bill back next year.

Best regards,

Alex Tanford
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Massimo Scalabrini
Indiana University-Bloomington
mscalabr@indiana.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Massimo Scalabrini
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Patricia Sawin
Indiana University-Bloomington
sawin@unc.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

As an alumna who received my PhD from Indiana University and has taught at public universities for 30 years, I am concerned about the ways in which this bill will degrade the quality of my alma mater.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Patricia Sawin, Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Eric MacPhail
Indiana University-Bloomington
macphai@indiana.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 is going to chase people out of the state: it will cut enrollment and hurt recruitment. Why should Indiana inflict this kind of damage on itself? Try to represent the interests of your state not your political party. Indiana can't afford to damage its own higher education. Your job is not to recruit people to UIUC or Ohio State.

Best regards,

Eric MacPhail
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Diane Economakis
Indiana University-South Bend
deconoma@iusb.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Diane Economakis
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Francisco Robles
University of Notre Dame
frobles1@nd.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

As a faculty member at Notre Dame, I worry about the effects SB 202 will have in chilling both conservative and liberal speech on public and private campuses, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, its world-class faculty, and our recruitment of undergraduate and graduate students.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Francisco Robles
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Emily Cannon
Indiana State University
emily.cannon@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Emily Cannon
Indiana State University

February 2024

Jimmy Finnie
Indiana State University
jimmy.finnie@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jimmy Finnie
Indiana State University

February 2024

Richard Fitch
Indiana State University
richard.fitch@indstate.edu

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. This is a bill which though well-intentioned will do the opposite of that for which it may have been intended.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

All the best,
Dr. Richard W. Fitch
Department of Chemistry and Physics
Indiana State University

Best regards,

Richard Fitch
Indiana State University

February 2024

Melanie Lee
Another institution in Indiana
mlee4@usi.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

It will chill both conservative and liberal campus speech and afflict both conservative and liberal scholars' work. It will shrink academic freedom for engineering, science and business research as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. It will lower the great impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its faculty, who absolutely will move to other states where they are welcome.

But most importantly, this bill will close the doors of opportunity that higher education opens to thousands, including first-generation, non-traditional, self-supported students like me. My life-changing liberal arts degree at USI allowed me to return to where my postsecondary journey began, to pay my educational experience forward and open doors of opportunity for thousands of others, changing lives for the better.

SB 202 is expensive and unneeded. Our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. As a tenured professor, I undergo rigorous yearly evaluation. Also, in a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan, no resources for costly, burdensome, unnecessary regulations it proposes. The regulations will be impossible to implement fairly, opening up the state and its universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped or resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill will necessitate. How will the state pay for it?

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our universities, push faculty and students towards competitors in nearby states, and reduce economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach will drive down students' success and ability to compete for jobs. It will diminish the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana, where people from all over come to learn and to teach.

For the good of our students, our economy, and our state, please oppose SB 202.

Melanie Lee, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Director of English Composition
University of Southern Indiana

February 2024

Michael Chambers
Indiana State University
mike.chambers@indstate.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. Rather than use the boilerplate language provided, I will present a few of my own thoughts on SB 202. Universities already have processes in place for students to present complaints or grievances against faculty who violate their rights -- including their first amendment rights. So why is this bill necessary? This legislation will take away my ability to present the accepted ideas and explanations on topics (in which I am an expert) my students and instead impose a political formula. For example, I teach Introduction to International Relations, and in this course I present to the students the Realist and Liberal theoretical schools of explanation. I briefly mention that there are other theoretical paradigms, such as Constructivism, Feminism, and Marxist approaches, but these alternative schools of thought are best left for advanced undergraduate courses or graduate courses. Based on the language in this bill, a student could have me taken to the Legislature-mandated complaint process for not teaching these theoretical schools even though in my professional judgment most students are not ready to address those approaches in an introductory class.

Similarly, how does the language that every faculty member must "expose students to scholarly works from a variety of political or ideological frameworks that may exist within and are applicable to the faculty member's academic discipline" apply to faculty members teaching Biology, Chemistry, or even Special Education in Music Education? Shouldn't the standard for teaching excellence in these courses be that the faculty member is providing students with the best information based on the best research that exists in those fields? Nevertheless, the language in this bill will require these faculty members to add political and ideological frameworks to these non-political subjects.

Finally, how can I -- as a faculty member -- try to teach critical thinking skills to a student who believes that the 2020 election was stolen despite the complete lack of evidence? If I challenge their evidence-free viewpoint, I run the risk of being called before the new Spanish Inquisition for violating that student's viewpoint even if it is not based on scholarly research. Who will become the arbiters of what is "scholarly" research on these political topics? And why should my time -- and that of many other people -- be wasted because a student wants to punish me for disagreeing with their evidence-free but partisan-based viewpoint?

This legislation will do the opposite of what its proponents claim. SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

This legislation is a sledgehammer approach to what is at best a pin needle problem in Indiana.

Best regards,

Michael Chambers
Indiana State University

February 2024

Kyle Schwieterman
Indiana University-South Bend
kylschw@hotmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kyle Schwieterman
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Deb Marr
Indiana University-South Bend
deborahmarr@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

This bill does not improve the quality of higher education or improve access to higher education for Indiana residents. Instead, this bill will detract time and resources from providing quality education for students.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Deb Marr
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

James Gustafson
Indiana State University
james.gustafson@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

James Gustafson
Indiana State University

February 2024

Catherine Paterson
Indiana State University
catstem1@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely,

Cat Paterson
Indiana State University

February 2024

Laura Zanotti
Purdue University-West Lafayette
lzanotti13@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

All views are my own, and I do not represent those of the University.

Best regards,

Laura Zanotti
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

TJ Boisseau
Purdue University-West Lafayette
tjboisseau@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

Vote NO on SB 202.

I am an historian. I have studied what happens to a society when intellectuals, scientists, artists, but especially educators are surveilled and monitored by the state for ideas and ideological control. I do not think such state-policing of universities serve either liberals or conservatives--both of whom rely on living in a free society in safety and the security of knowing they will not lose their jobs or be suppressed by the state or by intimidation or threat. No one is safe when compliance with ideologies are mandated by the state. The need and desire to live in a free society is the only thing perhaps we all can agree on. I beg of you to oppose SB 202, not to protect tenure but to protect freedom.

Best regards,

TJ Boisseau
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Justin Couetil
Indiana University-Indianapolis
couetilj@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Justin Couetil
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

David Nalbone
Purdue University-Northwest
dnalbone@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

As President Ronald Reagan noted, the government often is not the solution, but rather the problem. SB 202 is a solution in need of a problem.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

David Nalbone
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

Michael McNamara
Purdue University-West Lafayette
stagelightdesign@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Michael McNamara
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Carrie Ball
Indiana State University
dr.carrie.ball@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Carrie Ball
Indiana State University

February 2024

Joseph Chaney
Indiana University-South Bend
jos.chaney@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Joseph Chaney
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

myrdene anderson
Purdue University-West Lafayette
myanders@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

myrdene anderson
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Arash Rafiey
Ball State University
arash.rafiy@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Arash Rafiey
Ball State University

February 2024

Anne Foster
Indiana State University
alfhist95@gmail.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I have been trying to think about how this bill might change what I do in my own classes, such as the history of U.S. foreign relations. Mostly I think it would not change anything, since my goals as a teacher include helping my students learn to read and make up their own minds. But I can also imagine being tugged around from year to year as different sets of students complain, anonymously, about various perspectives that they perceive me to have neglected. Even if all comments are well-intentioned, the effects would be chaotic, making the classroom less effective.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Anne Foster
Indiana State University

February 2024

Maureen Johnson
Indiana State University
Maureen.Johnson@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I appreciate that your responsibilities are varied and difficult. However, I urgently write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. If passed, SB 202 will cause irreparable harm to all Indiana institutions of higher education and their ability to prepare today's students for their professional futures.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202. Thank you for your representation of Indiana residents.

Best wishes!

Maureen K. Johnson, Ph.D.

Best regards,

Maureen Johnson
Indiana State University

February 2024

Lain Mathers
Indiana State University
mathersalaina@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I care very deeply about my students'™ ability to engage in critical and thoughtful discussion for the sake of learning. I work to foster this in my courses already, and have I have seen how students across political groups, social identities, majors, and more benefit from such discussion. SB 202 will hinder this experience for my students. SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of all scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate. Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Lain Mathers, Indiana State University

February 2024

Joyce Huff, Ball State University
jlhuff@comcast.net

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. As I watched the recording of the February 14 meeting of the House Education Committee, I saw educators and students from across the political spectrum come forward with well-reasoned and well-supported arguments against SB 202. This, I thought, is the way that scholarly work is supposed to be done: scholars investigate the facts first, form opinions based on evidence, and then engage in respectful dialogue, supporting their conclusions with that evidence. It is what we college professors in Indiana teach our students to do. I couldn't help but notice the contrast between the scholarly mode of inquiry used by those who spoke against the bill and the unscholarly manner in which members of the committee and a single speaker spoke in support of the bill. The single speaker relied on anecdotal evidence, while a House member referred over and over again to a single study, which seemed cherry-picked to support his point of view (this is called "confirmation bias" in academic circles) and then expected academics to comment on it with no context about how that study was conducted and whether it was representative. These arguments would not have passed scholarly peer review no matter which side of the political spectrum they supported; they do not represent the way in which actual academic work is done. As scholars, we are taught to look at the strength of evidence and not the partisan political views underlying it.

And this is the problem with SB 202. It replaces actual scholarly inquiry and the teaching of scholarly inquiry - something that students need to understand in order to compete in a national and international marketplace - with the reinforcement of partisan political biases. In the bill, it doesn't matter whether thorough research was done or whether evidence and facts were discovered and processed. All that matters is that a spectrum of political biases are expressed. The most disturbing part of the bill is the way in which it employs the terms "likely" and "unlikely." Again, there is no mention of proof or evidence. A political appointee to the board is thus fully authorized to act on their own prejudices and biases with no evidence to support them. For me, the most chilling moment of the committee meeting occurred when a member of the House committee grilled a student about where he had heard of SB 202. It made me wonder: if this bill is really good for Indiana students, why is the committee so afraid of them finding out about it? I think this is an example of the climate that the bill is intended to foster, in which students can be intimidated into silence because political appointees don't like what they are saying. I was so proud to see students continue to speak their minds in the face of such intimidation tactics.

Finally, having read the bill, I do not understand how it addresses the problems that House representatives claims it will solve. If conservative professors self-censure, will it help them to stop doing so if they are told that they must represent liberal and progressive ideologies in their classroom? Will it make them less frightened to be told that they risk losing their jobs if liberal students feel they aren't representing liberal perspectives well enough, regardless of the strength of the evidence supporting their opinions? I'm not surprised that conservative professors spoke against the bill. Their only protection will be the lack of checks and balances in the bill, which opens the door to partisan political abuse of power: a conservative political appointee to the board has the power to dismiss charges of bias against a conservative professor and prosecute only those he or she personally disagrees with.

Best regards,

Joyce Huff, Ball State University

February 2024

Killian Orion
An institution NOT in Indiana
nonbond007@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Killian Orion
An institution NOT in Indiana

February 2024

Ted Maldonado
Indiana State University
ted.maldonado@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ted Maldonado
Indiana State University

February 2024

Catherine Hebert-Annis
Indiana University-South Bend
catherine_hebert@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Catherine Hebert-Annis
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Isaac Land
Indiana State University
Isaac.Land@indstate.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

This message solely reflects my position and is not an official statement on behalf of my Department or university. I would say, however, that these sentiments are widely held among faculty in many fields.

Isaac Land
Professor of History
Indiana State University

Best regards,

Isaac Land
Indiana State University

February 2024

Kathleen Marrs
Indiana University-Indianapolis
kmarrs@iu.edu

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dar Rep. Behning,

My name is Dr. Kathy Marrs, and I am a Professor of Biology at IUPUI. I am writing today in an individual capacity, and not on behalf of my employer “ to ask the members of the house education committee to oppose Senate Bill 202. Enacting this legislation would substantially weaken Indiana's higher education system, and cause significant economic damage to the state.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

Higher education is also is a major driver of economic growth, Indiana has a great deal to lose if SB 202 is adopted.

The economic impact of bills like HB 202 cannot be understated: As one example, IU created \$9.9 billion in added income for Indiana in FY 2019-2020 from impact.ie.edu.

• One out of every 26 jobs in Indiana is supported by the activities of IU and its students.
• For every dollar students invest in their education at IU, they will receive \$3.50 in higher future earnings.

â€¢ For every tax dollar spent educating IU students, taxpayers will receive an average of \$2.40 in return over the course of the studentsâ€™ working lives.

â€¢ The Knowledge-based and discovery-based university system, particularly teaching and basic research, are found to have substantial positive effects on the economic success of the state.

â€¢ <https://impact.iu.edu/reports/iu-execsummary.pdf>

Indiana one of the few states to have two tier-one research institutions, Indiana University and Purdue University, Creating legislation to damage their reputation has broad implications. Universities are a crucial source of talent, entrepreneurship, research and development, all of which contribute significantly to state economic growth. Indianaâ€™s public universities play a pivotal role in statewide medical and healthcare infrastructure, contributions in arts and humanities, and overall economic strength.

Weakening tenure puts at risk our ability to attract and retain top researchers, in healthcare, engineering, business, manufacturing, and biomedical sciences, the driving forces behind Indianaâ€™s technologies and medical innovation. Without the ability to attract and retain innovative faculty, our public universities will no longer be competitive nationally for millions in federal grants that fund critical research and infrastructure, followed by a loss of developing a workforce capable of meeting the demands of competitive industries in the state.

From an economic standpoint, the effects of SB202 are wide and include

1. Threats to Research and Innovation:
2. Risks to Industry Collaboration:
3. Decrease in on Skilled Workforce Development:
4. Diminished Attractiveness for new Businesses:
5. Loss of Federal Funding for Research:

Finally I want to emphasize that the billâ€™s portrayal of university faculty as solely promoting a specific ideological agenda is a mischaracterization.

In my 25 years at IUPUI, I have taught well over 12,000 students, and it is privilege and a joy to be involved in their education and academic development, from their first day of college to their senior capstones. Thousands of these hard working students have become our stateâ€™s physicians, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, and biomedical researchers, contributing to the health and well-being of our state. The core of higher education lies in the open exchange of ideas, diverse perspectives, and critical thinking. Our commitment as faculty is to foster a rigorous environment where discussion and research is welcomed and encouraged. Our goal is to empower students with the skills to engage in informed discussions, evaluate information, and generate new knowledge preparing them for a world that values diverse perspectives and prioritizes solving problems. Higher education thrives when diverse perspectives contribute to new ideas. Indianaâ€™s economy and reputation thrives as well from this development.

Until and unless the full consequences to the stateâ€™s higher education system and economy are understood, I ask you to take all steps to oppose SB 202. Thank you.

Best regards,

Kathleen Marrs, Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Linda Sperry
Indiana State University
linda.sperry@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Linda Sperry
Indiana State University

February 2024

Jon Bakos
Indiana State University
jbakos@att.net

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jon Bakos
Indiana State University

February 2024

Karen Kovacic
Indiana University-Indianapolis
kkovacik@iupui.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Karen Kovacic
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Bill Mullen
Purdue University-West Lafayette
bvmullen@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Bill Mullen
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Cody Hanson
Indiana State University
codychanson@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 aims to silence voices, critical thought, contrary opinions, under the guise of academic and individual freedom. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in all academic disciplines even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the positive impact our universities have on our state's economy, damage the reputation Hoosiers have for being sensible, common-sense conservatives, and puts us on a dangerous authoritarian course. SB 202 is an attack on education and critical thinking that has come to us nearly word for word from outside think tanks and other states. It is not a bill that our legislature has come up with to try to solve a problem. It is jumping on the bandwagon of extremism that other less practical states are on.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Cody Hanson
Indiana State University

February 2024

Katherine Lee
Indiana State University
katherine.lee@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Please note that I send this letter as a private citizen and not as a representative of my department, college, or university.

Sincerely,
Katherine H. Lee
Associate Professor
Indiana State University

February 2024

Ruth Fairbanks
Indiana State University
rfairban@joink.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ruth Fairbanks
Indiana State University

February 2024

Mohamed Elyassini
Indiana State University
mohamed.elyassini@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Mohamed Elyassini
Indiana State University

February 2024

Matthew Hotham
Ball State University
mrhotham@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Matthew Hotham
Ball State University

February 2024

Maren Linett
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mlinett@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Maren Linett
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Gia Macias
Purdue University-West Lafayette
gmacias1221@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Gia Macias
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jackie McKinney
Ball State University
jrgmckinney@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jackie McKinney
Ball State University

February 2024

Daniel Morris
Purdue University-West Lafayette
dmorris@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I have taught humanities at Purdue for thirty years. Please trust me when I say that faculty DO NOT use their classroom to force students to adopt the faculty member's point of view. That just isn't how it is done. Please believe me when I tell you that NOTHING makes a teacher happier than when a student poses challenging questions about a reading assignment, regardless of what position the student is taking on the reading. We work in the socratic tradition of posing questions, not of shutting down discussion based on whether or not we agree with a political or any other kind of point of view.

Best regards,

Daniel Morris
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Scott Sernau
Indiana University-South Bend
ssernau@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 creates undue political intrusion into education and mandates burdensome bureaucratic reporting. It will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Scott Sernau
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

John Kiesel
Indiana State University
jdkiesel@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will inhibit conservative and liberal speech on campus and affect the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

John Kiesel
Indiana State University

February 2024

Austin Veldman
Indiana University-South Bend
twyckenhamnotes@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Austin Veldman
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Terri Hebert
Indiana University-South Bend
thebert@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Terri Hebert
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Omeed Ilchi
Purdue University-Northwest
oilchi@pnw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Omeed Ilchi
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

Taylor Easum
Indiana State University
teasum@gmail.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate. Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

On a more personal note, I consider myself an academic refugee from the state of Wisconsin. When the state legislature there began to attack the protections of tenure and erode the independence of faculty governance, this led to plans to close programs like History and English. This directly threatened my position, even though I had invested five years in teaching and research there. In 2019, I was fortunate enough to land a position here at Indiana State University, among hard-working and supportive colleagues who uphold rigorous teaching and research standards. I am proud of the work we do here at ISU, but this legislation is a serious threat to that work, to our students, and to the positive economic impact ISU has on our students and throughout the state. In short, I have seen poorly conceived legislation like this cause real damage to public universities before, but I was drawn to Indiana because of responsible, level-headed leadership at the local and state level. SB 202 threatens to undo that reputation, and do real harm to the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Taylor Easum, Indiana State University

February 2024

Giovanni Zanovello
Indiana University-Bloomington
giovanni@zanovello.us

RE: Please Vote Against SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. I am now the head of my Department admissions committee and involved in two faculty searches--both students and prospective faculty are asking about this, and are worried. The new law claims to increase freedom, but it's *very* clear to us that it will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences. I am currently looking at colleges for my older son, and I realize what a wonderful opportunity an in-state tuition at institutions like Purdue and IU is for young people in Indiana. But if we lose the ability to attract the best faculty, as it is currently happening in Florida and Texas, these universities will lose their value. The restriction posed by the new law will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. As a faculty and administrator, I struggle to carry out everything I need right now, and under the new law my work will increase remarkably. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore forcefully ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Giovanni Zanovello
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Lori Hicks
An institution NOT in Indiana
lhicks04@swmich.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Lori Hicks
An institution NOT in Indiana

February 2024

Brittany James
An institution NOT in Indiana
bajames@noctrl.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Brittany James
An institution NOT in Indiana

February 2024

Michael Thompson
Indiana State University
michael.thompson@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

Although SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus and afflict the work of both scholars from both sides of the aisle, I am most concerned about the effect that this bill may possibly have on the free and accurate communication of science. It will also reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

This bill is similar to bills in other nearby states like Kentucky, Ohio, and Tennessee, which were crafted and written by special interest groups whose goal is to create a hostile environment for faculty at public colleges, universities, and K-12 schools. Please oppose SB 202!

Best regards,

Michael Thompson
Indiana State University

February 2024

April Lidinsky
Indiana University-South Bend
aprillidinsky@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Vote no on SB 202, please

Dear Rep. Behning,

I am a professor of Women's and Gender Studies who researches reproductive health. While I work for IU South Bend, I write on behalf of myself, a voting Hoosier.

Like my colleagues in other disciplines, I invite students in my classes to consider diverse perspectives on thorny topics, and I pursue that complexity in my research, too. Education is rarely about comfort; instead, it's about challenging ourselves to consider new ideas, and to change along with those ideas. Indiana University South Bend has invested in me, and I in turn invest in my students and research every day. Should a student have a complaint, our university, like others, has a transparent process for addressing and resolving issues.

Therefore, there is no need for this burdensome (in time, bureaucracy, and money) oversight by those without content expertise in the topics we cover in universities. This bill will have a chilling effect on free speech and research, and will likely encourage faculty to find work in other states. Indiana already has a critical "brain drain" problem. SB 202 will worsen this situation.

Please oppose SB 202 and focus on issues on which you can improve the lives of Hoosiers, such as improved health care.

Thank you for your consideration,

Prof. April Lidinsky
536 S. Sunnyside Avenue
South Bend IN 46615

Best regards,

April Lidinsky
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Mandy Reid
Indiana State University
mandy.reid@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Mandy Reid
Indiana State University

February 2024

Dominic Naughton
Purdue University-West Lafayette
dnaughto@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Dominic Naughton
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Deborah Flurkey
Indiana State University
deborah.flurkey@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will inhibit and event halt both conservative and liberal speech on campus. All scholars will be adversely affected, for the bill will reduce academic freedom for researchers in all areas from the humanities to the sciences. The bill claims to do the opposite! Our state is already losing many of its best people to other states, and this bill will hasten that flight.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: it offers NO plan or resources for the burden and cost of the new regulations it proposes. Please think about how the bill will open up universities to increased legal liability. Our Boards of Trustees and our administrations are not funded for such as this. Last, the increased workload this bill would necessitate will strain an already economically strapped institution of higher learning.

Think of how Florida's universities have suffered in faculty and student flight. Our hard-working Hoosiers will send their children to out-of-state higher education institutions and further deplete an Indiana with an highly education workforce.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Deborah Flurkey
Indiana State University

February 2024

Matthew Hartman
Ball State University
mscothartman@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Matthew Hartman
Ball State University

February 2024

James Speer
Indiana State University
jim.speer@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

James Speer
Indiana State University

February 2024

Toqa Hassan
Purdue University-Northwest
tahassan@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Toqa Hassan
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

Stephanie Masta
Purdue University-West Lafayette
szywicki@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Stephanie Masta
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Sergiy Chernenko
Purdue University-West Lafayette
schernen@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sergiy Chernenko
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Theodore Sorg
Purdue University-West Lafayette
sorg3@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. I am a PhD student and NSF Graduate Research Fellow in engineering education at Purdue University, though I am only speaking for myself and not on behalf of Purdue or NSF.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering (like myself), science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Theodore Sorg
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Juliet Hardesty
Indiana University-Bloomington
jlhardes@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate. The entire point of tenure is to ensure that faculty are allowed to be intellectually diverse in their research avenues and interests, to have the freedom to explore without fear of repercussions. Instituting a review process that decides anything about tenure after tenure has been received is cancelling tenure and restricting academic freedom. The state will be diminishing all public higher education in Indiana if this bill passes. IU and all other public higher ed institutions will see reduced grant funding, reduced innovation, and reduced economic impact on the state of Indiana.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Juliet Hardesty
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Rebecca Lindstrom
Indiana University-South Bend
rebeccalindstrom@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rebecca Lindstrom
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Xiang Zhou
Purdue University-West Lafayette
xiangzhou@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Xiang Zhou
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Rhonda Meriwether
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
meriweth@pfw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rhonda Meriwether
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Jason Zhang
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jiansongzh@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jason Zhang
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Alicia Jay
Indiana State University
aliciamgoodman@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Alicia Jay
Indiana State University

February 2024

Kali Rubaii
Purdue University-West Lafayette
kalk.rubaii@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to please vote NO on SB 202.

It will cause major brain drain in the state by chilling both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflicting the work of all scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences (although it claims to do the opposite). This restriction will reduce the impact of universities on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty – who will certainly move their talents to other states.

SB 202 is also costly: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome new regulations it proposes.

Even if the bill's regulations were adopted, they would be impossible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate – in both implementation and inevitable lawsuits.

Passing the bill will reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kali Rubaii
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jonathan Chaconas
Another institution in Indiana
jonathan.chaconas@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jonathan Chaconas
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Harsha Honnappa
Purdue University-West Lafayette
honnappa@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. In a nutshell, this bill will not have the effects the bill's sponsors think it will. It will however have the unintended effect of moving Indiana's flagship universities down the rankings, ruining Indiana's reputation as a pragmatic haven for intellectuals and researchers in the mid-west. Think carefully before you vote for this bill.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. As an engineering faculty member, I can vouch for the fact that this will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. There are faculty members in engineering, science and business schools who study healthcare and recidivism in the justice system, for instance, for whom this bill will kill their ability to their research. They will simply leave this state. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Almost definitely, passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Harsha Honnappa
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Alice Pawley
Purdue University-West Lafayette
alicepawley@gmail.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I am a professor of engineering education at Purdue University (although I speak for myself here). Among other things, I teach first-year engineering students how to work in teams, code in MATLAB, and do engineering design. As I read it, SB 202 restricts what I can teach my students regarding the professional values of engineering, on which we are accredited as a program, and potentially threatens my job depending on whether I would get reported as an ideologue by students.

I testified in front of you on Wednesday Feb 14 to express my concerns about SB 202. Since then I have continued to hear from colleagues around the state and at Purdue about how worried they are about this bill. I think you dismiss their concerns at your peril - despite what some media report, it takes a lot to get faculty riled up to this extent, on both sides of the ideological spectrum. And it is clear to me that SB 202 is in violation of national AAUP standards on academic freedom and shared government, and on the American Council on Education's statement on Academic Rights and Responsibilities, which states: "The validity of academic ideas, theories, arguments and views should be measured against the intellectual standards of relevant academic and professional disciplines. Application of these intellectual standards does not mean that all ideas have equal merit. The responsibility to judge the merits of competing academic ideas rests with colleges and universities and is determined by reference to the standards of the academic profession as established by the community of scholars at each institution."

No faculty member worth their salt wants to restrict rigorous debate, nor for students to feel stifled in their exploration of their political thoughts. But while everyone should have their rights to free speech per se, academic freedom is not the right to say what one wants without consequence - it is the right to have one's arguments (and evidence) judged by the standards of the field. SB 202 puts that right at risk, with the 5-year post-tenure reviews that are reviewed by the Board of Trustees and bring with them sanctions based on political ideology (or, as we fear, politicised interpretations of our scholarly work). DEI offices are already supervised. Faculty already undergo post-tenure reviews. Students already have a way to complain about discriminatory faculty or other employees. No one is being required to take "pledges of allegiance" to treat people unfairly, nor to uphold some kind of extreme ideology. I think universities have the right to ask employees to uphold their institutional values in their work as that institution's employees, as other institutions have. This bill as written is unnecessary, expensive, impossible to implement fairly without threat of expensive litigation, and threatening of the values it purports to uphold, including academic freedom.

It's a short session, as you know. There isn't time to fix this bill - you have other important priorities to consider. I ask to you vote no on this bill.

Best regards,

Alice Pawley
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jennifer Stefancik
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jenn_in06@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jennifer Stefancik
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

John Mott
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jhmott@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202. Please note that I am writing to you as an individual and my views do not represent those of Purdue University.

John H. Mott
Professor, Purdue University

Best regards,

John Mott, Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Suchuan Dong
Purdue University-West Lafayette
sdong@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Suchuan Dong
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jennifer Inlow
Indiana State University
jinlow@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jennifer Inlow
Indiana State University

February 2024

Max Felker-Kantor
Ball State University
mfkantor@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Max Felker-Kantor
Ball State University

February 2024

Elizabeth Richards
Purdue University-West Lafayette
earichar@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Elizabeth Richards
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jill Ehnenn
An institution NOT in Indiana
ehnennjr@appstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jill Ehnenn
An institution NOT in Indiana

February 2024

Glenn Berggoetz
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
berggoeg@pfw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Glenn Berggoetz
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Zach Schrank
Indiana University-South Bend
zschrank@iusb.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Zach Schrank
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Cynthia Searfoss
Purdue University-West Lafayette
cynsear@me.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Cynthia Searfoss
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Vanessa Rapatz
Ball State University
vrapatz@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Vanessa Rapatz
Ball State University

February 2024

Sharon Solwitz
Purdue University-West Lafayette
solwitz@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sharon Solwitz
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Veanne Anderson
Indiana State University
veanne.anderson@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Veanne Anderson
Indiana State University

February 2024

Mark Cushman
Purdue University-West Lafayette
cushman@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

Please vote "NO" on SB 202 because it will put the academic community in Indiana and the state legislature on a permanent adversarial relationship that will not be healthy for either. It has already undermined "trust" that the university community has for state government by promoting implied accusations about a problem that does not exist. It will be unhealthy to inject politics into tenure, promotion decisions, and tenure review in a climate of pernicious suspicion that is unfounded. Why undermine a first-class higher education system that is a first-class asset to the state?

Best regards,

Mark Cushman
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Catherine Day
Ball State University
cathy@cathyday.com

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. I am a native Hoosier who spent 20 years teaching college students in Alabama, Minnesota, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. I was part of Indiana's brain drain problem. But in 2010, a job in my specialty opened up at Ball State, and I got the job offer. I was so excited to teach young Hoosiers from the same kinds of places I am from. I've developed a career class for humanities majors and one of my goals is helping to combat Hoosier brain drain by showing my students that they don't have to leave Indiana in order to find meaningful and remunerative jobs. But if SB 202 passes, that argument will be much harder to make, and I am afraid that most of my colleagues will leave Indiana, as SB 202 will create intolerable working conditions for those charged with teaching the next generation of Hoosiers. Perhaps that is your goal?

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate. Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Catherine Day
Ball State University

February 2024

Mark French
Purdue University-West Lafayette
rmfrench@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: SB 202 is Bad for Business

Dear Rep. Behning,

I'm a professor at Purdue. I started here after a long career as an engineer. It's already hard to recruit highly trained people to come to Purdue. This will make the problem worse.

Purdue is an economic engine for the state. I just don't understand why the state house would vote for a bill that would make it harder for us to compete.

I suspect this bill will pass. Could you insert language saying that the five year tenure review is intended to be just a check and does not require faculty to go up for tenure again?

If we have to go up for tenure every five years, it will be very difficult to hire and retain top people. I have named professorship. If I have to go up for tenure every five years here, I will definitely start looking for another job.

Thank you for your attention.

Mark French

Best regards,

Mark French
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Wendy Flory
Purdue University-West Lafayette
floryw@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

As a Professor who has taught at Purdue University, West Lafayette, for 35 years, and is concerned to preserve the national and international reputation of Purdue, I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Wendy Flory
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Debra Knaebel
Indiana State University
debra.knaebel@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in all disciplines, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Debra Knaebel
Indiana State University

February 2024

Pamela Saylor
Purdue University-Northwest
psaylor@pnw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Pamela Saylor
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

AJ Schwichtenberg
Purdue University-West Lafayette
ajschwichtenberg@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

AJ Schwichtenberg
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Skye Napolitano
Purdue University-West Lafayette
snapolit@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Skye Napolitano
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Emmett Smith
Earlham College
smithem3@earlham.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I am a faculty member in the natural sciences department of my college. We already have problems recruiting and retaining high-quality faculty to teach our students. Passing this bill will make things worse.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202. (Note that my opinions are not that of my college.)

Best regards,

Emmett Smith, Earlham College

February 2024

Terri Carney
Butler University
terri.carney@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Terri Carney
Butler University

February 2024

Christie Shee
Purdue University-West Lafayette
cshee@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Christie Shee
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Liz O'Laughlin
Indiana State University
lizo@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Liz O'Laughlin
Indiana State University

February 2024

Maria Bucur-Deckard
Indiana University-Bloomington
mashabucur@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Maria Bucur-Deckard
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Kit Kincade
Indiana State University
kit.kincade@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kit Kincade
Indiana State University

February 2024

Lee Roberts
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
borbievn@pfw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Lee Roberts
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Robert Marzec
Purdue University-West Lafayette
rmarzec@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Robert Marzec
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Peter Leavitt
Indiana State University
peter.leavitt@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

When I was a college student, I often felt hesitant to share my thoughts because I felt that my views would make me an outsider and that others would treat me differently. As a faculty member today, I am sometimes hesitant to share my thoughts for the same reasons. But at no point have I thought that the way to make me feel more comfortable sharing my views is by increasing political oversight of higher education in a blatantly partisan fashion.

SB 202 will not make institutions of higher education more welcoming and inclusive. SB 202 will make participants in higher education institutions more suspicious and vigilant of each other.

SB 202 will not help institutions of higher education function more effectively. Instead, it will add significant, and unnecessary, burden and cost to the functioning of these institutions, undermining their educational missions and harming the reputation of the state of Indiana.

I ask that you oppose SB 202

Best regards,

Peter Leavitt
Indiana State University

February 2024

Jeanine Shannon
Purdue University-West Lafayette
findjeanine@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote YES on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote YES on SB 202.

DEI on the Purdue campus is becoming a vehicle for the introduction of oppressive gender ideologies that are at odds with Hoosier values. Earlier demands for acceptance of the LGBTQ community have led to demands for the celebration of transgender rights. I am required as a staff member to remember and use they-their-them pronouns so as not to offend. Simply avoiding pronouns altogether is not enough to satisfy. Soon, Iâ€™m sure I will be forced to use neopronouns to satisfy the liberal agenda.

The office of DEI and the multiple staff across campus being paid inordinately high salaries as DEI officers, in my opinion, donâ€™t do much if anything to further opportunities for students of color, of different ethnic backgrounds, and of different religions. Instead, this growing contingent on our college campus uses the cloak of DEI as a tool to squash freedom of expression and alternative opinions at Purdue.

I therefore ask that you support SB 202.

Best regards,

Jeanine Shannon
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Michele Buzon
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mbuzon@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Michele Buzon
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Joshua Holden
Another institution in Indiana
joshuarbholden@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

As a Professor of Mathematics at the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

One of the most serious problems facing Indiana is the brain drain of our talented young people to other states. SB 202 will discourage the best faculty from working at Indiana universities, lower their national rankings, and discourage the best Indiana high school students from staying in Indiana for college.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Joshua Holden
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Shelley MacDermid Wadsworth
Purdue University-West Lafayette
shelley@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB is presented as protecting the representation of conservative viewpoints on campuses and fixing flaws in the tenure system. These arguments are deeply flawed. They focus on the idea of tenure as a job guarantee, instead of on academic freedom. Our society NEEDS scientists to be able to study unpopular or unrecognized topics, because we never know what urgent needs are going to suddenly emerge. Protections associated with academic freedom make it possible for scholars to conduct research on topics that may not yet be in the mainstream. Before 911, there was little recognition of the importance of research on homeland security. Before the HIV crisis, there was little mainstream interest in the sexual habits of gay men. Yet, each of these topics became critically important when our nation faced crises that affected millions of people.

Today, tenure and promotion are granted based on academic and scientific standards that are published, reviewed, and approved at multiple levels of the university. Promotion cases are also reviewed at multiple levels of the university, as well as by outside reviewers.

Even once granted, tenure is not an absolute protection -- faculty always can be fired for cause. There is nothing in the benchmarks that allows promotion to be denied based on viewpoint -- conservative or liberal -- yet if passed, this legislation would make it more possible to deny promotion or retention based on either type of view.

Indiana already struggles to produce enough citizens who are well-educated and well-prepared for employment in knowledge jobs. We already struggle to rise out of the 'basement' in terms of health and other indicators of the well-being of our population. This bill will make it harder, not easier, for Indiana to address these problems.

I have always understood Republicans to be a party that promoted limited government, freedom of speech, and decision-making based on evidence. This bill violates all of these principles and will accomplish nothing except politicizing what we allow to be considered science, evidence, and facts.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Shelley MacDermid Wadsworth
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Lisa Welp-Smith
Purdue University-West Lafayette
lwelp@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

This bill claims to remove politics from the higher education institutions in the state, but it does just the opposite. This bill inserts politicians in the tenure process and seeks to reduce free inquiry and expression.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Lisa Welp-Smith

Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Stephanie Gardner
Purdue University-West Lafayette
sgardne@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I am writing this letter on behalf of myself and not as a representative of my Department, College, or Institution.

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely, on behalf of myself and not as a representative of my Department, College, or Institution,

Stephanie M. Gardner
Associate Professor
Purdue University - WL

Best regards,

Stephanie Gardner
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Sage Maul
Purdue University-West Lafayette
kmaul25@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sage Maul
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Hannah Airriess
Indiana University-Bloomington
hmairriess@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Hannah Airriess
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Ryan Altman
Purdue University-West Lafayette
raaltman@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ryan Altman
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Lindsay Weinberg
Purdue University-West Lafayette
lweinber@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not qualified, equipped, nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition (as has been the case in Florida, decimating competitive faculty recruitment), and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Lindsay Weinberg
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Annie Shattuck
Indiana University-Bloomington
annieshattuck@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Annie Shattuck
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Kaela Van Til
Purdue University-West Lafayette
vantilkaela@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kaela Van Til
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jessica Weatherford
Purdue University-West Lafayette
weatherj@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jessica Weatherford
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Daniel Oesterle
Purdue University-West Lafayette
doesterl@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Daniel Oesterle
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Hannah Stowe
Another institution in Indiana
hestowe@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I am an alumna of Indiana University South Bend ('12). I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Hannah Stowe
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Gregory Druschel
Indiana University-Indianapolis
gdrusche@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Gregory Druschel
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Yu-Chin Chiu
Purdue University-West Lafayette
chiu56@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Yu-Chin Chiu
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

ann savage
Butler University
asavage@butler.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

ann savage
Butler University

February 2024

Christine MacDonald
Indiana State University
chris.macdonald@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Christine MacDonald
Indiana State University

February 2024

Anne Fliotsos
Purdue University-West Lafayette
fliotsos@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Anne Fliotsos
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Ashley Hutson
Butler University
afeely@butler.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ashley Hutson
Butler University

February 2024

Lauren Frasier
Ball State University
lmathieu1@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Lauren Frasier
Ball State University

February 2024

Alexander Wei
Purdue University-West Lafayette
alexwei@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. I am very much opposed to the contents that would greatly restrict tenure-track faculty to speak freely on topics that can be weaponized against them.

SB 202 will stifle free speech on campus regardless of political leanings or content. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, humanities and social sciences, even though it claims to do the opposite. The passage of SB 202 will reduce the impact all our great universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and our ability to recruit world-class faculty who have propelled our leading universities to global recognition.

SB 202 is also expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, steer our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Alexander Wei
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Robert Loweth
Purdue University-West Lafayette
rloweth@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Robert Loweth
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Colin Airriess
Indiana University-Bloomington
colinairriess@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Colin Airriess
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Keith LeGrand
Purdue University-West Lafayette
klegrand@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Keith LeGrand
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Thomas Steiger
Indiana State University
thomas.steiger@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Thomas Steiger
Indiana State University

February 2024

Matthew Hannah
Purdue University-West Lafayette
hannah8@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

Good afternoon,

I write in opposition to SB 202 and ask you to vote no on this piece of legislation. To be honest, this bill is Orwellian in its attempt to target and discriminate against academic freedom in the name of diversity. I know there are many who believe such legislation is necessary to combat perceived ideological factions within higher education, but, to be honest, this is a bogeyman, a phantom that does not exist. I have been an educator for over almost fifteen years, and I have never witnessed such indoctrination. Instead, I have seen faculty try very hard to get students to think, to learn, and to thrive. SB 202 is targeted at an illusory problem. Most of the time, faculty cannot even convince students to do the homework assigned at all.

But SB 202 will have a very real impact on academic freedom. It will attack professors who teach topics that can be nuanced and complex, and such important conversations will be left out of higher education leaving a student body completely unprepared for the actual world. In my experience, students are capable of encountering different views, opinions, and beliefs without having to adopt them. Unlike politicians who seem terrified of every voice that raises another perspective, students can reason through problems and make up their own minds. SB 202 will also ensure that we can no longer retain or recruit the best minds of our time as many will feel unwelcome under the new authoritarian regime you hope to create with this bill. We will lose faculty who can simply avoid the challenge of SB 202 by going elsewhere.

Finally, SB 202 will burden Boards of Trustees with trying to review and respond to potential complaints should they arise. To be honest, SB 202 is a bureaucratic nightmare and reflects State overreach at its most egregious and undemocratic. Students who simply dislike a professor or course can easily file false complaints without punishment, and the quality of education will decline precipitously.

All of this for an illusory problem. I urge you to practice common sense and vote no on SB 202. Let us get back to the work of educating the best and brightest of tomorrow.

Matthew Hannah, PhD

Associate Professor
Purdue University

February 2024

Sarah Vitale
Ball State University
sarah.e.vitale@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely,
Sarah Vitale

Best regards,

Sarah Vitale
Ball State University

February 2024

Sara E Skrabalak
Indiana University-Bloomington
sskrabal@indiana.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sara E Skrabalak
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Terry Dean
Indiana State University
terry.dean@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Terry Dean
Indiana State University

February 2024

Suin Roberts
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
shins@pfw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Suin Roberts
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Christy Coleman Brown
Indiana State University
CLCB1116@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Christy Coleman Brown
Indiana State University

February 2024

Lucas Burkett
Indiana University-South Bend
lucasbur85@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Lucas Burkett
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Matthew Reznicek
An institution NOT in Indiana
matthewreznicek@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Matthew Reznicek
An institution NOT in Indiana

February 2024

Adilene Osnaya
Purdue University-West Lafayette
osnayaadi@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Adilene Osnaya
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Noor O'Neill
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
noorborbieva@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

Vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 inserts government interference where it is not needed or wanted. It will politicize higher education more, to the point of threatening the delicate balance educators must achieve between intellectual excellence and freedom to explore diverse viewpoints. This is not easy. We on the ground, who are in those classrooms are telling you, who are in the statehouse, that the bill proposed will NOT work on the ground. It will have unforeseen consequences that you do not intend and that you will not like. As someone who spent over four years in the former Soviet Union, I am passionate about the small government freedoms so many Americans take for granted. This legislation threatens that important legacy of freedom and individualism in Indiana. By making it more difficult (and riskier) for educators to do their jobs of teaching students to explore and debate diverse viewpoints, this bill will discourage excellent faculty AND excellent students from finding homes in Indiana's public higher education system and reduce the impact our universities have as economic engine of our state.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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Best regards,

Noor O'Neill
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Bryan Duarte
Purdue University-West Lafayette
bryanjduarte@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Bryan Duarte
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Matthew Ohland
Purdue University-West Lafayette
matt.ohland@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202 - it matters

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will help to silence both conservative and liberal speech on Indiana campuses, and affect the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Matthew Ohland
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Árica FernÁndez
An institution NOT in Indiana
erfernan02@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

As a current Indiana resident, a former Indiana elementary teacher, 4-time IU alumna, and current associate professor at an institution outside of Indiana, I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. As a two-time award-winning scholar, I would not dare consider working at a university in Indiana with SB 202 in place.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Árica FernÁndez

February 2024

Chris Sears
Another institution in Indiana
cmsears8384@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Chris Sears
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Samantha Scribner
Indiana University-Indianapolis
mati.scrib@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Samantha Scribner
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Felicia Sears
Another institution in Indiana
fgarcia1018@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Felicia Sears
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Tyler Yensel
Another institution in Indiana
tyensel08@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Tyler Yensel
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Molly Nebiolo
Butler University
mnebiolo@butler.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Molly Nebiolo
Butler University

February 2024

Mark Alteri
Another institution in Indiana
alteri.mark@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Mark Alteri
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Kathryn Bauserman
Indiana State University
kathryn.bauserman@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kathryn Bauserman
Indiana State University

February 2024

Cara Kinnally
Purdue University-West Lafayette
cara.kinnally@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
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RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Cara Kinnally
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Marzy Bauer
Another institution in Indiana
marzytbauer@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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Marzy Bauer
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Nik Chawla
Purdue University-West Lafayette
nikc@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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Best regards,

Nik Chawla
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Amanda Poole
Another institution in Indiana
amanada.naulty@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Amanda Poole
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Shannon Johnson
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
sfjohnson13@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Shannon Johnson
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Lavender McKittrick-Sweitzer
Butler University
lmckittricksweit@butler.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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Best regards,

Lavender McKittrick-Sweitzer
Butler University

February 2024

Luis Gomez
Purdue University-West Lafayette
lagomez91@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Luis Gomez
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Fan Yang
Purdue University-West Lafayette
fanfanshappy@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Fan Yang
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Christopher Airriess
Indiana State University
cairries@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Christopher Airriess
Indiana State University

February 2024

Baijian Yang
Purdue University-West Lafayette
byang@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

The Honorable Representatives,

I urge you to vote NO on Senate Bill No. 202 (SB202). The tenure system at universities is a cornerstone of academic freedom, ensuring that faculty members can engage in research and teaching without fear of reprisal. This freedom is essential for fostering an environment where diverse ideas and perspectives can thrive, contributing significantly to intellectual diversity and innovation.

SB202 proposes significant changes that could undermine these principles by imposing conditions on tenure and promotion related to free inquiry, free expression, and intellectual diversity. While these goals are commendable, the bill's approach risks politicizing academic evaluations and infringing on academic freedom. It could deter faculty from exploring controversial or innovative ideas, diminishing the quality of education and research.

Moreover, tenure protects faculty from undue political or administrative pressures, allowing them to pursue long-term research projects that can lead to major advancements in their fields. Eliminating or restricting tenure would not only threaten academic freedom but also weaken the United States' position as a global leader in higher education and research.

For these reasons, I strongly encourage you to support the preservation of university tenure systems by voting against SB202. Our commitment to academic excellence and intellectual freedom depends on it.

Sincerely,
Baijian

Best regards,

Baijian Yang, Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Takumi Murayama
Purdue University-West Lafayette
murayama@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I am writing to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I am a tenure-track assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics at Purdue University. I am sharing my own opinion and do not represent Purdue University or the Department of Mathematics.

SB 202 will be disastrous for academic freedom on university and college campuses in Indiana. Faculty research throughout the political spectrum—both conservative and liberal—and in all fields—including Purdue's historical strengths in the STEM fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics—will be adversely affected.

I am particularly concerned about Chapter 2 Sec. 1 (b) (1)-(3) and Sec. 2 (a) (5). These parts of SB 202 provide enormous leeway for faculty expression of ideas or opinions to be weaponized against them. This will lead to faculty throughout the political spectrum being unfairly targeted, demoted, or even terminated solely because they expressed an opinion some students or other faculty did not agree with. SB 202 will chill classroom exchange of ideas and lead to an atmosphere of fear where few people feel safe expressing their views, the complete opposite of freedom of expression.

I am concerned that SB 202 will adversely affect Indiana and Purdue's place as national leaders in public education. Passing SB 202 will damage Indiana's reputation and push students and faculty towards our competitors, in particular hurting Indiana's competitiveness economically as people decide to leave the state and/or avoid the state altogether. Tenure is important so faculty can focus on their research and pursue knowledge without the fear of retaliation. Without tenure, why would any faculty decide to work in Indiana? And if we do not have some of the best faculty and researchers in the country, why would any students or industrial partners come to Indiana?

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Takumi Murayama
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Julie Goodspeed-Chadwick
Indiana University-Indianapolis
juligood@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Julie Goodspeed-Chadwick
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Kelcey Ervick
Indiana University-South Bend
ucparker@yahoo.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

Greetings:

After I was awarded tenure in 2012 (voted excellent in teaching, research, and service), I published two books in the next four years. In the five years since being promoted to full professor in 2019, I have published two more (one edited). I say this because there seems to be a lot of these bills going around and there seems to be a stereotype of professors getting tenure and then resting in their laurels when I am fairly representative of my amazing colleagues at IU South Bend (not even an R1!). And because, as a writer and professor, I am committed to my students and to helping them communicate their own stories creatively and clearly. I welcome a diverse range of perspectives and stories in my classroom, and I insist upon an atmosphere of mutual respect. The stories they tell—of immigrating to the U.S., of enlisting in the military, of getting injured in a sports season, of wrestling with mental health, of taking care of family members—transcend mere “liberal” or “conservative” binaries. They are messy, beautiful, human stories, and we all benefit from sharing them.

Have you talked to university faculty about SB 202? Have you talked to university students? (I mean talked to: not consulted statistically suspect “data.”) Sometimes we hear from administrators who seem out of touch with faculty and with the students we (and they) serve and who perhaps have ulterior resume-related motives. This bill feels like it comes from politicians who also have no idea what happens in a classroom and who want to make a splash to impress their colleagues and newsletter recipients.

So yeah, anyway: I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely,
Kelcey Ervick
Indiana University South Bend

Best regards,

Kelcey Ervick
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Holly Juip
Ball State University
hnjuip@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Holly Juip
Ball State University

February 2024

sandy washburn
Indiana University-Bloomington
swashbur23@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill all speech on campus, and afflict the work of scholars--no matter their ideology. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, and you know it will do this. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. There are no provisions in the bill for resources that will be needed to add this layer of oversight. And the bill is simply unnecessary--just another attempt by the IN GOP to restrict speech.

What is the problem that you are actually trying to solve with this bill? I submit that this is a manufactured problem, and simply another way for the IN Legislators to scare educators, now at the college level, to prevent them from talking about, things that the GOP doesn't want students to hear--things like, "The Nazi's were bad." Remember this? The IN lawmakers made it to the Late Night Show!!! With SB 202, we might get there again.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would add to the mounting evidence that we are just a backwards state.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

sandy washburn
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Meghan Kahn
Another institution in Indiana
kahnmc@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Meghan Kahn
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Craig Morehead
Indiana State University
craig.morehead@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote NO on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Craig Morehead
Indiana State University

February 2024

Sara Simpson
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
todd_sara@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sara Simpson
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Heather Adams
Indiana State University
Heather.Adams@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Heather Adams
Indiana State University

February 2024

Molly Martin
Another institution in Indiana
martinma@uindy.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

As a faculty member at the University of Indianapolis (a private institution not directly affected by the bill), as an alum of Purdue University, and as a citizen of this state, I hope you will vote no and let the experts on college campuses do their jobs.

Best,
Molly Martin
Professor & Chair of English
University of Indianapolis

Best regards,

Molly Martin
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Sarah McKibben
University of Notre Dame
smckibbe@nd.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sarah McKibben
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Pam Butler
University of Notre Dame
pamelawynnebutler@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and progressive speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and progressive scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Pam Butler
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

David Atkinson
Purdue University-West Lafayette
david.atkinson75@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

David Atkinson
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Molly Ferguson
Ball State University
molly.e.ferguson@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202!

I moved to Indiana from Kentucky for more freedom of speech and a more reasonable approach to inclusivity, and if SB202 passes my family and my family might leave, instead of putting our students in college here and retiring here.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Molly Ferguson, Ball State University

February 2024

Michelle Greene
Indiana University-Indianapolis
greenemcs@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Michelle Greene
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Susannah Monta
University of Notre Dame
smonta@bd.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Susannah Monta
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Fabiola Clayton
Purdue University-West Lafayette
fclayton@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Fabiola Clayton
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Toby Kaufmann-Buhler
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jkbuhler@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Toby Kaufmann-Buhler
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Matt Blaszk
Indiana State University
matt.blaszka@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Matt Blaszk
Indiana State University

February 2024

Samantha LeGrand
Purdue University-West Lafayette
samanthaelegrand@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you, please, to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will do the opposite of what it claims to support - rather than protecting free speech, it will introduce greater fear and divisiveness between the beautifully varied viewpoints on campuses, conservative, liberal, and everything in between. Our faculty and instructional staff pride themselves on working to create classroom environments where all students can be both valued for who they are and safely challenged to grow to their fullest potential. Each year, Purdue-West Lafayette collects student feedback and finds that students consistently report our classrooms as being one of the safest environments on campus.

SB 202 will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. With a spouse in Purdue's Aeronautics and Astronautics department, I have witnessed Purdue's struggle to recruit and retain top faculty candidates even in a field in which Purdue's excellence is known globally - currently we are the #4 program in the world in this rapidly growing field, but the restrictions of SB 202 will further push high quality candidates to the other top schools that do not impose additional unnecessary burdens on their faculty: MIT, Georgia Tech, UT Austin, UC Boulder, University of Illinois, to name a few.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic

return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Thank you for taking the time to hear our concerns and for representing the thousands of students, staff, and faculty who have dedicated ourselves deeply to education and academic freedom in Indiana.

Samantha LeGrand

Clinical Assistant Professor, Purdue Libraries and School of Information Studies

Purdue University-West Lafayette

note: all thoughts are my own; I do not represent the viewpoints of Purdue University or the Libraries.

Best regards,

Samantha LeGrand

Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Michelle Wright
Indiana State University
mfwright04@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Michelle Wright
Indiana State University

February 2024

Amanda Solesky
Indiana State University
amanda.solesky@indstate.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will stifle both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of all scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. It is already difficult to recruit qualified faculty to our state.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. I do not feel those outside the university understand how much we and our programs are evaluated. This bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely,

Amanda Solesky Faculty Instructor and Clinic Director
Indiana State University

Best regards,

Amanda Solesky
Indiana State University

February 2024

Gemssy Munoz
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
gemssymunoz@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Gemssy Munoz
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Shannon Barton
Indiana State University
Shannon.Barton@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Shannon Barton
Indiana State University

February 2024

Susan Blum
University of Notre Dame
sblum@nd.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Susan Blum
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Sarah Rowley
DePauw University
rowley.sarah@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

Although proponents tout increased freedom, the bill will have the opposite effect. SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely,
Sarah B. Rowley
professor at DePauw University

Best regards,

Sarah Rowley, DePauw University

February 2024

Colleen Doci
DePauw University
colleendoci@depauw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science, and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Colleen Doci
DePauw University

February 2024

Beth South
Another institution in Indiana
brockman.south14@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I want to share my concerns about SB 202 and ask that you vote NO.

SB 202 will stifle both conservative and liberal speech on campus and hinder the work of scholars across all disciplines. Additionally, its expenses and bureaucracy could strain our universities without offering clear benefits.

Passing SB 202 will harm our universities' reputations, drive away talented faculty and students, and reduce returns for taxpayers.

SB 202 is costly and overly bureaucratic, imposing new regulations without providing resources or plans. Existing university procedures for faculty oversight are robust, and the bill risks increased legal liability by implementing unfeasible regulations. Boards of Trustees and administrations lack the resources to handle the bill's significant increase in workload.

SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students, harm Indiana's global reputation, and is economically irresponsible. I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Beth South
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Beth Holloway
Purdue University-West Lafayette
bholloway111@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Beth Holloway
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Dianne Money Penny
Indiana University-Bloomington
nadien14@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

It is the pinnacle of government overreach. It would not be newsworthy if this happened in Russia, in China, and in other despotic nations. It has certainly made the news here, in the United States.

Vote no for big government. Vote no to reject the ideals of nations like Russia and China where the government "knows best." Vote no to secure academic freedom, our greatest asset, in the US. Vote no to leave students' comfort and freedom in the hands of the already existing institutional procedures of redress. Vote no to avoid ballooning government expenses when there is already a process in place.

This bill is superfluous. It's bad press. And it costs our government both time and money that would be better spent elsewhere.

The state has stood up around you and shouted no. The calls have been far reaching and loud. Not one student testified in support of this bill. It seems clear what Hoosiers and your constituents really want. I hope you are listening to our calls.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Dianne Money Penny
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

David Zwicky
Purdue University-West Lafayette
dzwicky@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 does not solve any problems we are actually seeing on Purdue's campus. The problems it purports to solve are not ones that exist on campus, only in the media. It will chill speech on both sides of the political divide, and it will not result in stronger conservative voices on campus. Most of the researchers on my campus are in science and technology areas where this will only have negative impacts, on our global reputation and on our ability to attract and retain high quality candidates.

If you were a senior engineering faculty member who brings in massive grant funding and corporate partnerships, a faculty member who can work anywhere, why would you come to a state that imposes this on its universities?

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic. If you want to really turbo-charge our universities, we need less administrative waste, not more. We already have mechanisms in place to hold faculty accountable, post-tenure. In a non-budget year, you are proposing an additional layer of bureaucracy on the university without giving us the money to pay for it. Our current Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate, so we would need to hire more administrators. This will ultimately take money away from teaching and research. It would take money away from our work with students to, again, solve no actual problem we are seeing on campus.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

David Zwicky
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jason Reed
Purdue University-West Lafayette
reed.jason.b@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jason Reed
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Mark Golitko
University of Notre Dame
mgolitko8@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Mark Golitko
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Henry Pernicka
An institution NOT in Indiana
pernicka@mst.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will stifle both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and restrict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. The onerous annual dossier review alone will have a devastating effect on both productivity and morale.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students toward our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Indiana's students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Henry Pernicka
An institution NOT in Indiana

February 2024

Betsy Wilkinson
Indiana State University
BETSY.WILKINSON@INDSTATE.EDU

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Betsy Wilkinson
Indiana State University

February 2024

Douglas Stevens
Indiana State University
Douglas.stevens@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Douglas Stevens
Indiana State University

February 2024

Nicole Mix
Indiana State University
Nicole.Mix@indstate.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will obstruct both conservative and liberal speech on campus and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science, and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students toward our competition, and reduce the economic return on investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I, therefore, ask that you oppose SB 202 on my behalf and not Indiana State University, the College of Health and Human Services, or the Applied Medicine and Rehabilitation Department.

Nicole Mix PT, DPT
Assistant Professor
Indiana State University

Best regards,

Nicole Mix
Indiana State University

February 2024

James Elliott
Indiana State University
pastorjimelliott@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

James Elliott
Indiana State University

February 2024

Kristopher Schwab
Hanover College
kris.schwab@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kristopher Schwab
Hanover College

February 2024

El-Houcin Chaqra
Indiana State University
el-houcin.chaqra@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 202, currently under consideration by the Indiana House Education Committee. As a concerned member of the community and a supporter of quality education in our state, I believe that the passage of this bill would have detrimental consequences for students, staff, and faculty in public universities across Indiana.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. The SB 202 will also impact the numbers of international students who select Indiana university for their higher education in the U.S. Over one million international students contributed \$40.1 billion to the U.S. economy in the 2022-2023 academic year. International students across Indiana account for \$890.2 million and support 8,297 jobs.

Senate Bill 202, in its current form, raises serious concerns that I believe could compromise the integrity and reputation of our Indian public institutions. I would like to bring to your attention the following reasons for my opposition:

1. Political Interference in Academic Affairs: Granting politicians power over faculty in the classroom and in their research undermines the autonomy of educational institutions and may compromise the pursuit of knowledge.
2. Challenges in Faculty Recruitment and Retention: The bill's provisions may make it more difficult to attract and retain top-tier faculty, which is crucial for maintaining the high standards of education in our state.
3. Threat to Research Funding: Researchers' ability to secure federal funding may be at risk, particularly on topics where the "broader impact" of the research is assessed. This could impede valuable contributions to various fields of study.
4. Accreditation of Medical and Nursing Schools: The inclusion of diversity, equity, and inclusion components in medical and nursing school programs is vital for preparing healthcare

professionals to serve our diverse population. SB 202 may jeopardize the accreditation of these programs.

5. Restrictions on Freedom of Expression: The bill's potential impact on the freedom of students and faculty to discuss ideas across the ideological spectrum is concerning and goes against the principles of academic freedom.

6. Increased Administrative Burden: Mandating the review of hundreds of faculty dossiers annually by Boards of Trustees, administrators, and faculty committees could place an undue burden on educational institutions.

7. Reduced Alumni Representation: Limiting alumni representation on Boards of Trustees may hinder the diverse perspectives and experiences needed for effective governance.

8. Unfunded Reporting Mechanisms: The requirement for additional unfunded reporting mechanisms and bureaucracy would place an unnecessary strain on administrations and staff professionals.

I respectfully urge you to consider the potential negative impact of SB 202 on our public universities and the broader educational landscape in Indiana. I implore you to vote against the passage of this bill in its current form and instead work towards policies that support the continued excellence of our state's higher education institutions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I appreciate your dedication to the betterment of education in Indiana and trust that you will carefully consider the concerns raised by many within the community.

Sincerely,

Best regards,

El-Houcin Chaqra
Indiana State University

February 2024

Shane Greene
Indiana University-Bloomington
shanegreene138@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Shane Greene
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Risa Cromer
Purdue University-West Lafayette
risac@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Risa Cromer
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jessica Sturm
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jessica.sturm@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jessica Sturm
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jessica Baldanzi
Another institution in Indiana
jbaldanzi@goshen.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jessica Baldanzi
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Erin Moodie
Purdue University-West Lafayette
emoodie@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Erin Moodie
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Katie Jarvis
University of Notre Dame
katiejarvis01@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Katie Jarvis
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Jamie Browning
Indiana State University
jamie.bridgesbrowning@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

This bill is exactly summed up by Ronald Reagan's "œthe most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government and I'm here to help."

It is uselessly vague. Just for example. Marxist Anarcho-Syndicalist economics is not taught in our Econ 101 courses, despite it having a robust intellectual history. Should a Marxist student be able to charge an introductory economics Professor with failing them because Capitalism was the only economic system seriously discussed in the course? Similarly, if a dedicated Marxist Economics Professor (of which we have none at ISU) taught diverse competing intellectual traditions within Marxism they would arguably meet the requirements of the Bill.

Honestly, while I share the concerns about a chilling effect on free speech, I think the main effect of this bill in practice will be to create more bureaucracy that funnels tax-payer education money to paperwork which does not provide any education. I find it hard to believe anyone with any familiarity with Higher Education thinks there is a need for filing more statements to chairs and administrators explaining teaching practices.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jamie Browning
Indiana State University

February 2024

Debra Ellis
Purdue University-West Lafayette
hopperellis@yahoo.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

Passage of SB202 would create a brain drain for the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Debra Ellis
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Chu He
Indiana University-South Bend
hechu73@hotmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202. This is my personal opinion, not representing my institution.

Chu He
Professor of English
Indiana University South Bend

February 2024

Katheryn Ocampo
Indiana State University
katheryn.ocampo@indstate.edu

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I currently teach in psychology and am opposed to SB 202. In psychology training we are committed to the principles of academic freedom, open debate, and creating an inclusive environment for students and patients. To achieve the best healthcare education, it is critical to allow colleges and universities the ability to develop all the required student competencies necessary to support healthy communities. Creating space for open dialogue on complex issues is fundamental to the mission of education in the health professions, including in psychology.

SB 202 will damage the state reputation, further damaging Indiana's ability to hire faculty in psychology--thus limiting our ability to meet the mental health needs of Hoosiers. SB 202 will likely cause current faculty to move to other states, as there are far more faculty positions available across the country compared to available applicants. Indiana will also be less attractive to students who are seeking education as a psychologist. We need to increase opportunities to train psychologists in Indiana, rather than imposing unnecessary limitations.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Katheryn Ocampo
Indiana State University

February 2024

Rebekah Sheldon
Indiana University-Bloomington
rsheldon@indiana.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rebekah Sheldon
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Angeline Lyon
Purdue University-West Lafayette
lyonam@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Department of Chemistry at Purdue, I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, make retention of faculty and students even more challenging, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Angeline Lyon
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Crystal Young
An institution NOT in Indiana
cnsyoung2010@gmail.com

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. I am writing as a former faculty member at the University of Southern Indiana who taught classes where students were encouraged to explore and challenge their own values and beliefs, learn how to conduct rigorous research, and communicate with people from a variety of backgrounds.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Crystal Young
An institution NOT in Indiana

February 2024

Cecilia Lucero
University of Notre Dame
clucero@nd.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Cecilia Lucero
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Gyeong Mee Yoon
Purdue University-West Lafayette
yoong@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Gyeong Mee Yoon
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Charles Conaway
Another institution in Indiana
caconaway110@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Charles Conaway
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Ashley Ford
Ball State University
ashley@ashleycford.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ashley Ford
Ball State University

February 2024

Melissa Chomintra
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mchomint@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Melissa Chomintra
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jeffery Short
Another institution in Indiana
jkeeneshort@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jeffery Short
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Janet Alsup
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jalsup@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Janet Alsup
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Brandon Stevens
Purdue University-West Lafayette
brsteven@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Brandon Stevens
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

John Duffy
University of Notre Dame
jduffy@nd.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

John Duffy
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Andrew Flachs
Purdue University-West Lafayette
aflachs@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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This bill will send our brightest and most globally-connected young professionals out of state while costing taxpayers and parents money.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Andrew Flachs
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Samuel Chirtel
Indiana University-Bloomington
schirtel@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Samuel Chirtel
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Eric Samperton
Purdue University-West Lafayette
eric@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 is especially absurd for a math professor like me. What exactly would it mean for me to address "competing scholarly views" in my work? I have no clue, and SB 202 offers no specifics, only threats. This will create a chilling effect and make hiring top talent to our world-class department more difficult.

Even worse, SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic. What is the point of making the taxpayers of Indiana pay for a 5-year review of math professors' politics in the classroom when there are none?

And this is not to throw my colleagues in the humanities under the bus. The STEM students I regularly encounter at Purdue have a rather unfortunate disdain for humanities. This is of course their personal prerogative but this correlates with their poor writing skills. The humanities and social sciences undergraduates are required to study as part of their breadth here are absolutely essential to ensuring they are prepared with all of the skills they need to succeed in the world, especially writing and communication. Making it even harder for my colleagues in the College of Liberal Arts to do their job and hire top talent will only hurt the Hoosiers educated at Indiana universities in the long run.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Eric Samperton
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Aaron Specht
Purdue University-West Lafayette
aaronspecht@gmail.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. As someone who grew up in Indiana to take advantage of the wonderful state institutions and can now continue the legacy of those institutions to further the mission to serve more Indiana residents with the same high quality education I received, I am in a unique position to offer my opinions on this bill. I am very concerned about this bill as it effectively makes Indiana higher education institutions less effective at recruiting and retaining the best intellectuals. Even outside of whatever political lens, by my read, it appears this will put yet another review process in place, for an already overburdened faculty which is definitively not happening at competing institutions. Additionally, the political ramifications will limit any intellectual diversity, which is ironic considering that seemed to be the main plea for requiring the oversight in the first place. I fail to see any merit to the enactment of the bill and only see areas for potential harm. Finally, as the main focus of our state institutions are to help the residents of the state, this directly contradicts that mission, by sowing seeds that will cause a brain drain from our state, we actually harm those Indiana residents who want to use these institutions as they were intended at their formation "for the betterment of Indiana residents.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Aaron Specht, Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Rachael Kenney
Purdue University-West Lafayette
rhkenney@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rachael Kenney
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Zoeanna Mayhook
Purdue University-West Lafayette
zmayhook@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Zoeanna Mayhook
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Samuel Sokolsky-Tift
University of Notre Dame
samsokolskytift@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Samuel Sokolsky-Tift
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Brian Brodeur
Another institution in Indiana
bbrodeur1978@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Brian Brodeur
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Katie Jarriel
Purdue University-West Lafayette
kjarriel@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

This bill will contribute to the brain drain that Indiana has acknowledged for decades. States with similar bills - like FL, GA, NC, and TX - face challenges recruiting top researchers, and researchers in those states are looking to leave. In Florida, 50% of faculty surveyed indicated that they are seeking employment in another state. Georgia, North Carolina, and Texas report 25-30% of faculty seeking work elsewhere. In Florida, 86% of faculty surveyed said they would discourage graduate students from coming to their state, with numbers in GA, NC, and TX reporting 58-64% discouraging students.

To support Indiana's economic growth, we need to be able to attract top talent to our state. SB 202 will hamstring those efforts.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Katie Jarriel
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Susanna Hoeness-Krupsaw
Another institution in Indiana
hoeness@usi.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Susanna Hoeness-Krupsaw
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Cass Turner
Indiana University-Bloomington
acturn@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I recently left my tenure-track position at Indiana University - Bloomington for an out-of-state position, and it was precisely because of the threat of legislation like this.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Cass Turner
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Aaron Warren
Purdue University-Northwest
arwarren@pnw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please Vote NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

Generally speaking, regulation is the last resort of the State when protecting the Public Welfare, as it is only to be used when trust in the behavior of a population or institution has been lost or cannot be maintained for *legitimate and clearly defined reasons*. It is a tool of last resort because it is so broad and cumbersome by its very nature, lacking both the capacity to adapt to individual nuances and to adapt to changes in situations with time; capacities that are sacrificed in order to achieve (at least the appearance of) broad and uniform application that can restore trust and baseline quality. Note also that the reasons for creating regulation must be clearly and objectively defined, lest the regulation be so vague as to invite abuse and thereby devolve into a becoming a tool of bias and oppression.

None of that holds true regarding Indiana's higher education institutions. There is no clear body of evidence that points to widespread and persistent abuse of free speech or any legitimate suppression of intellectual diversity or educational quality. Moreover, regulation of the sort proposed by SB 202 would be quite costly in an age where educational institutions already struggle to balance budgets. The regulations of SB 202 would also be redundant with both the pre-existing legal protections for free speech as well as the rigorous pre-existing review procedures for tenure-track and tenured faculty.

The courts are the proper place for challenges to free speech limitations or to employment decisions. It should not be the privilege granted to an additional layer of potentially opaque bureaucracy to render judgments on such matters; judgments that are likely to be unaccountable and prone to biases and errors themselves, and that would only further reduce quality and trust by a larger fraction of the population (and, in this case, the loss of trust would be for clearly defined and legitimate reasons).

The bill also seems ignorant of the fact that tenure exists *precisely* to protect the free speech and academic activity of individuals at the cutting edge of society's perspectives/knowledge. Tenure ensures that some of the best and brightest and most dedicated among us can take on high-risk/high-reward research which may not be palatable (or understandable) to the majority of people, and either is not feasible in commercial research or is outside the scope of the

economic marketplace altogether (as not all things of human value - the things that make life worth living - can be marketized). In general, Liberty is constrained by Truth; that is, intellectual diversity on a topic is only valuable if the truth-status of a hypothesis regarding the topic is not known. The people best situated to accurately evaluate the truth-status of work within an academic topic and which hypotheses and research projects and educational curricula may yield substantive value in an academic topic are the academics who have spent their careers passionately working on that topic. That is precisely what tenure-track reviews and faculty annual reviews already entail.

But with the passage of SB 202, anyone accepting an appointment in Indiana would be aware that these legitimate reviews would potentially be over-ridden/undermined by a sort of Big Brother entity that is watching and listening and may damage their career and life without clear and objective and Constitutionally-sound reasons. Acts of 'malicious reporting' such as those in autocratic nations like China and Russia, which have already deeply bureaucratized overviews of faculty research and teaching, may also compound the suppression of faculty productivity and hiring, and create a toxic atmosphere for students and faculty alike.

There is no legitimate reason, no objective, outrageous, nor persistent failings of the state's higher education institutions in Indiana, that would warrant regulation of the nature proposed by SB 202. Lacking in clear and convincing motivation, one is left to judge SB 202 as nothing more than an act of political convenience rooted in fear, group-think, biased pre-judgments, and ignorance. It caters to a segment of the population that has no actual knowledge of what they are judging, and that has not specified clear objective reasons to lose trust and to create regulation of this nature that would supplant the extant review system and legal protections. Passing SB 202 would be an act of self-harm by Indiana, which already suffers from numerous difficulties in many quality of life measures. We do not need to add to our woes for the sake of political gamesmanship and attention-seeking.

Please make a stand for legitimate, responsible governance and vote NO on SB 202.

Best regards,

Aaron Warren
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

Hubert Izienicki
Purdue University-Northwest
hizienic@pnw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Hubert Izienicki
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

Katy Didden
Ball State University
kedidden@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Katy Didden
Ball State University

February 2024

John Larson
Purdue University-West Lafayette
larsonjl@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

If the point of SB 202 is to establish a post-tenure review of faculty for determining their continued productivity and excellent performance, there are much more appropriate models for doing this within a peer-review system that does not introduce partisan politicians into the process. Recent trends in other state legislatures clearly indicate an intent to manipulate educational curricula and impose partisan values on higher education classes. Several years ago a special panel appointed by the University Senate drew up a proposal for post-tenure review that was infinitely better than SB202.

As for "balancing" the intellectual climate on campuses, to effort to introduce "thought police" will change the fact that critical thought and free inquiry will upset the cherished notions of any ideological party. This is the central purpose of higher education; without it we are simply fostering competitive echo chambers, something already being perfected by our popular media. Please do not make the situation worse by imposing SB 202.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

John Larson
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Rebecca Lehmann
Another institution in Indiana
rlehmann@saintmarys.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rebecca Lehmann
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Gokce Esenduran
Purdue University-West Lafayette
gesendur@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Gokce Esenduran
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Michael Hutchins
Another institution in Indiana
hutchimd@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will create an unnecessary, expensive, and disruptive layer of bureaucracy to institutions that already have sturdy mechanisms for addressing grievances and keeping faculty accountable. The bill would create an environment of uncertainty and anxiety, making it harder to attract top talent among students and faculty alike.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Michael Hutchins
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Ryan Van Hovel
Indiana State University
ryan.vanhovel@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ryan Van Hovel
Indiana State University

February 2024

Marsha T Bradford
Another institution in Indiana
bradfordmarsha@sbcglobal.net

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely,
Marsha R Bradford, JD

Best regards,

Marsha T Bradford
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Vanessa Miller
Indiana University-Bloomington
vanessadianemiller@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Vanessa Miller
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Curren Gauss
Indiana University-Bloomington
currengauss@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Curren Gauss
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

David Cappelleri
Purdue University-West Lafayette
dcappell@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

David Cappelleri
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Nathan Mead
An institution NOT in Indiana
nathan.mead42@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote "NO" on SB 202.

SB 202 will undoubtedly chill speech (both conservative and liberal in nature) on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. SB 202 will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences—even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state; its reputation; and its world-class faculty, who will, in many cases, seek refuge in other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: Indiana universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

I believe that passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of Indiana's world-class universities, push the exceptional faculty and students towards out-of-state institutions, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. As such, SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of students, staff, and faculty.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Nathan Mead
An institution NOT in Indiana

February 2024

Ellen Wells
Purdue University-West Lafayette
wells54@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ellen Wells
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Patricia Blanchette
University of Notre Dame
blanchette.1@nd.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Patricia Blanchette
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Linda Hite
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
hitel@pfw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I and my colleagues are counting on you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will hinder speech on campus, and negatively impact the work of all scholars and teachers. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will cost our state dearly as the best faculty and students will choose to relocate to other states. At a time when we are urged to be invested in stopping brain drain, this bill would open the flood gates for talented individuals to leave Indiana and never return.

SB 202 is expensive, redundant and heavily bureaucratic. Our universities already have procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. This bill offers no resources for the burdensome new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push away the best faculty and students, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore implore that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Linda Hite
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Amie McKibban
Another institution in Indiana
armckibban@usi.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Amie McKibban
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Onyx Uzomah
Purdue University-West Lafayette
Njoku2@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please VOTE NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Onyx Uzomah
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Mindy Badia
Ball State University
mindybadia@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I am a professor at Indiana University Southeast and an alumna of IU Bloomington (MA and PhD in 1996). I speak for myself, as a person with deep connections to Indiana University, not for my institution or department. I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. Indeed, IU will have a much harder time recruiting and retaining the best faculty, and the brightest Indiana students will seek their postsecondary education elsewhere.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Mindy Badia
Ball State University

February 2024

Clint Chapple
Purdue University-West Lafayette
chapple@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Clint Chapple
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Heather Roberts
Indiana State University
Heather.Roberts@indstated.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. This will be devastating for Indiana's future.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our out-of-state competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Heather Roberts
Indiana State University

February 2024

Emily Johnson
Ball State University
esjohnson2@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: No on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

Academic freedom is an essential tool in promoting ground-breaking research. It gives professors freedom to explore new topics without fear of losing their jobs for ideological reasons. It also gives us the freedom to experiment and try out new lines of inquiry, knowing that our jobs are secure even if our innovation means that it takes longer to produce results.

Concerns have been raised about the tenure system's tendency to protect "lazy" professors who don't do research, but SB 202 will not solve this problem. In fact, the bill is more likely to have a chilling effect on research -- by incentivizing professors to "float under the radar" rather than pursuing groundbreaking avenues of inquiry.

Indiana institutions have strong reputations for producing some of the best scholar and research in the country in a variety of fields. SB202 threatens that productivity and reputation. Once this reputation is tarnished, it will be difficult to get back. Our best students and faculty will go elsewhere.

SB 202 is also expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. The oversight promised by SB 202 will cost the state money and impose political oversight that is more likely to punish professors over ideological disagreements rather than for legitimate academic or professional reasons. This is bad for conservative and liberal professors alike, and for anyone whose research is ahead of their time. (Think of Galileo!)

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Emily Johnson

Ball State University

February 2024

Rachael Smith
Ball State University
rdsmith4@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rachael Smith
Ball State University

February 2024

Deborah Knapp
Purdue University-West Lafayette
knappd@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I am writing to ask you to please vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will set us back dramatically in efforts to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion.

SB 202 threatens free speech on campus and academic freedom.

SB 202 will make it even more difficult to recruit and retain top faculty and graduate students. This is already a huge challenge, and this bill will make it worse. Candidates for faculty positions and graduate programs absolutely pay attention to DEI and academic freedom and the tenure process. I very certain that world-class faculty will move to other states if SB 202 and similar bills are passed. These faculty will take their talents and their research funding with them. Not only will this hurt the universities, it will have a major negative impact on the State.

SB 202 is costly and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have rigorous systems in place for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will definitely hurt the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, persuade our exceptional faculty and students to leave, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore strongly ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Deborah Knapp

Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Thade Correa
Indiana University-Bloomington
thade.correa@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Thade Correa
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Angela Schooley
Purdue University-Northwest
aschool@pnw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. Within the College of Nursing and the profession of nursing there is a need for nurses to better address the health care disparities within our State. This bill directly works against our efforts in education to grow that workforce.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. We submit annual reviews demonstrating our teaching effectiveness, scholarship efforts, and engagement. This is a robust review of our annual contribution to the University. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.
Dr. Angela Schooley, PhD, RN, CNE

Best regards,

Angela Schooley
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

Courtney Wittekind
Purdue University-West Lafayette
ctwittek@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: I'm asking that you vote NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to implore you to vote NO on SB 202. I believe SB 202 will harm the quality of teaching at our state institutions, undercut student success and graduates' competitiveness in the market, and force many faculty, labs, and research funds to leave our state.

I was recently recruited to join the faculty at Purdue University as a new Assistant Professor focusing on science and technology studies. Initially, I was enthusiastic to return to the Midwest after nearly a decade on the East Coast (I am from Ohio originally and lived there until college). Yet, today, my enthusiasm has dwindled because of SB 202. I worry about the constrained freedom I will have to do the research I was hired to undertake; SB 202 makes tenure subject to reviews that judge faculty based on political criteria. Post-tenure employment will also be contingent on periodic reviews, shot through with political considerations. I find it important to highlight a point I think has been missed in last Wednesday's debate over SB 202. While the framework set out by SB 202 may be well-intentioned and targeted to protect students with minority views today, the use of this bill could oscillate wildly depending on the moment's politics. It is a weapon to be wielded by those in power—and no one can know who will be in power in the future. Regardless of what political views you hold personally, I would like to underscore the risk of bringing politically motivated demands of any orientation into the university. Once in place, they can be used by any administration in power to limit faculty contributions across the realms of research, teaching, and public service.

Last year, Purdue recruited faculty trained at the nation's best institutions, myself among them. If Senate Bill 202 is adopted, it will be difficult to attract new faculty or retain existing top teachers and researchers. I have heard this directly in the past week at Yale University, where I am based on a research fellowship for this academic year; close colleagues of mine are weighing offers at Indiana's state universities and plan to reject the offers in favor of other universities if SB202 moves forward. Indeed, one is waiting to sign her acceptance paperwork until there is an outcome from you all. If this does not underscore the immediate stakes of your decisions, I cannot imagine what might.

Indiana has the opportunity to continue to invest in two of the nation's top institutions and support their ability to attract and retain top researchers and teachers. Or, they can risk alienating those who have committed to the state's public institutions or plan to in the future. Reporting in the Chronicle of Higher Education shows the latter has happened in Florida, where

faculty, staff, and students are leaving in high numbers; at the University of Florida, there has been a 20% increase in faculty resignations, and at Florida State, resignations are up 28% from last year.

I hope you and your colleagues will take these concerns seriously as you weigh SB202.

Thank you,
Courtney Wittekind

Best regards,

Courtney Wittekind
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Cecelia Chisdock
University of Notre Dame
ccisme97@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Cecelia Chisdock
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

N. Ann Rider
Indiana State University
ann.rider@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 is a terrible solution looking for a problem. Its authors have no evidence that there is a problem with academic freedom for student voices on university campuses. The bill appears to be acting on hearsay, without knowledge of the structures already in place for faculty evaluation, and the numerous opportunities for students to have their concerns addressed.

The bill shows little understanding of what academic course design entails and latches on to a populist grievance that doesn't even come from this state.

This bill, if passed, will create direct and indirect censorship. Indirect self-censorship is already evident among colleagues who do not have tenure and fear for their jobs. In my own research on authoritarian societies, it is clear that self-censorship is as dangerous as actual censorship, because it stifles all creativity and incentive.

Academic freedom means nothing if a scholar cannot speak based on their research and vetted data, even if that information runs contrary to popular opinion.

SB 202 will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

N. Ann Rider
Indiana State University

February 2024

CHARLES WALKER
Ball State University
maggiewalks@msn.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

CHARLES WALKER
Ball State University

February 2024

Maria Osborne
Indiana State University
maria.osborne@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Maria Osborne
Indiana State University

February 2024

Laura Soderberg
Another institution in Indiana
laura.soderberg@usi.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill all speech on campus, and afflict the work of all scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Please note that I am writing as a private citizen, rather than speaking on behalf of my institution.

Best regards,

Laura Soderberg
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

James Davis
Purdue University-West Lafayette
davisjam@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

As the subject of this letter indicates, I feel that SB 202 makes me a "flight risk" for Indiana higher education. My name is James C. Davis. I am an assistant professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering at Purdue University. I am in my 4th year and am planning to go up for tenure in the next 2 years.

By all metrics I am doing well in my field. I have published papers, I have participated in bringing ~\$1.5M in funding to Purdue University. I am training students. I am becoming a top choice for PhD applicants to our program. I have been an invited speaker at many universities across the country. It is difficult for universities to hire and retain faculty in computing. I have the impression that, if I wanted to work at another institution (e.g., not in Indiana), then it would be possible for me to get another position.

In light of this, I want you to understand how I perceive SB 202. Like you, I was deeply troubled by the US Senate hearings with the presidents of Harvard, Columbia, and MIT, and I am aware of extreme behavior on the part of some members of the professorate. It looks to me as though SB 202 is trying to place reasonable constraints on the kinds of political action that faculty members can take. I am fine with reasonable constraints, if the current regulatory framework (which puts power in the hands of individual universities) is inadequate. However, I think that SB 202 goes too far in pushing for legislative oversight, without a clear rationale for Indiana's universities. The specific aspect of SB 202 that I find most concerning is the "blank check" provision that allows the board of trustees to impose arbitrary constraints on faculty members to receive and retain tenure. But more generally, I don't understand what is broken here that needs a legislative fix. If the legislature is unhappy with how the state universities are handling issues of free speech, has it given the universities a chance to respond within the existing regulatory framework? If the legislature wants to constrain tenure, can it be more specific?

The broad powers granted to the legislature and the board by SB 202 make me fear for my own job security. If SB 202 passes, I believe I can "walk", and find a good, traditional, tenure-protected job at another university. Me, my grant money, and my students would leave town. I have heard similar sentiments from other junior faculty members in ECE. I therefore recommend that you vote "no" on SB 202. I do not understand the benefit to the state. I perceive substantial risk. The risk-reward tradeoff seems unfavorable.

Yours,

James C. Davis, PhD
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jane Goodman
Indiana University-Bloomington
janegood@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jane Goodman
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Jane Williams
Indiana University-Indianapolis
jrwillim@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jane Williams
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Jennifer Horn
Another institution in Indiana
jjhorn@usi.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jennifer Horn
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Natali Valdez
Purdue University-West Lafayette
ntvaldez@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Natali Valdez
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Natasha Collins
Indiana University-South Bend
collinnl@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Natasha Collins
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Anthony Sparkling
Purdue University-West Lafayette
asparkli@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Anthony Sparkling
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Denny Weisz
Indiana University-Bloomington
dennyweisz@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Denny Weisz
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Nathan Myers
Indiana State University
nathan.myers@indstate.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

Now is a period of great promise for Terre Haute. The city has new leadership, new business ventures on the horizon, and on-going efforts to improve community resources like our parks. However, SB 202, a bill which recently passed the Indiana Senate on a party line vote, would have a severe and negative effect on this progress.

This bill seeks to add unnecessary and burdensome layers of scrutiny to what professors teach in the classroom, to the extent that faculty could lose their employment and/or their tenure if their assigned readings and classroom lectures don't meet politicians' definition of intellectual diversity. This will lower university morale, make it more difficult to hire diverse and high-quality faculty, and make the university experience both less stimulating for students and less adequate for taking on the challenges of today's world.

What's more it is entirely unnecessary. Students have an opportunity to evaluate faculty at the end of each semester. Pre-tenure and post-tenure faculty are reviewed at the department and college level on an on-going basis (pre-tenure faculty are reviewed at the university level as well). Programs are assessed on meeting learning outcomes yearly, graduate programs go through an additional review every five years, and many programs have to submit themselves to independent accreditation bodies (not to mention the accreditation process Indiana State and other institutions submit to every 10 years).

Those who argue that none of this matters because all faculty think alike and act in unison has a fundamental misunderstanding of how higher education operates. Even faculty who may share ideological beliefs have very different ideas when it comes to what constitutes quality teaching and effective extra-curricular experiences. This promotes innovative teaching and novel approaches to experiential learning. However, history has taught us that when professionals are subjected to subjective scrutiny they will play it safe.

Now is not the time for the Indiana legislature to enact rules, which they themselves admit are based as much on perception as reality, that cause faculty to play it safe. Great things could be ahead for Terre Haute and the Wabash Valley, and Indiana State stands ready to be a loyal partner. However, this will only be possible if the Indiana legislature treats its higher education institutions with support, not suspicion.

Best regards,

Nathan Myers, Indiana State University

February 2024

Rebecca Martinez
Purdue University-West Lafayette
rmartinez721@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rebecca Martinez
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

MARIANNE WOKECK
Ball State University
mwokeck@iupui.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

MARIANNE WOKECK
Ball State University

February 2024

Adra Young
Indiana State University
adyoun@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Adra Young
Indiana State University

February 2024

Stephen Boehm
Indiana University-Indianapolis
slboehm@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Stephen Boehm
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Laverne Nishihara
Another institution in Indiana
l5nishih2@comcast.net

Dear Rep. Behning,

Urgent: please vote NO on SB 202. Faculty see that SB 202 threatens tenure. The strongest, most highly regarded faculty in science, tech, and business will leave Indiana, taking their grants and students with them. The strongest candidates for faculty positions will avoid Indiana.

In addition, businesses have gone global. Science and technology employ very diverse employees.

The perception that Indiana does not support widely-defined diversity will discourage businesses from moving to Indiana.

I also agree with the following statement. Vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Laverne Nishihara
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Maria McKenna
University of Notre Dame
mmckenn9@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely, Dr. Maria K. McKenna

Best regards,

Maria McKenna
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Pamela Hartman
Ball State University
pmhartman@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Pamela Hartman
Ball State University

February 2024

Deborah Bauer
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
bauerds@pfw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Deborah Bauer
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Jessica Warren
Another institution in Indiana
warrenjs@iu.edu

RE: Please vote NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

The purpose of imposing regulations by a State is to restore trust and quality in a group or institution where there is a consistent, pervasive, objective, and well-defined body of evidence indicating that the group or institution is failing the Public Welfare. It is generally an option of last resort because it necessarily produces a new bureaucracy that is burdensome (financially, organizationally, and energetically), and because it sacrifices agility and adaptive nuance for the sake of breadth and uniformity, and because it can be abused and misused when the standards of trust and quality it seeks to assure are ill-defined and liable to fluctuation over time.

No body of evidence has been collected or provided of any pervasive, objectively-defined concerns regarding oppression of legitimate intellectual diversity across academic fields or institutions within our state. In contrast, the motivation for SB 202 is self-admittedly solely on the basis of some claims regarding the vague, ill-defined feelings of some fraction of the population of our state. This is similar to the motivation for various regulations on academia that have been imposed in other places and times under conditions of autocratic censorship. For that reason alone, SB 202 should never have even been suggested, let alone permitted to reach this point.

However, there are yet more reasons to oppose SB 202. There are the undoubted direct costs, financial and otherwise, which would burden universities and colleges that already struggle to maintain solvency. But there are also the indirect costs to faculty productivity, faculty recruitment, private-public partnerships, business attractiveness, and student educational quality that would assuredly follow. When faculty have options to find employment in states that understand and respect the reason for tenure, and that respect the expertise of the academics who have devoted their careers to seeking Truth in their respective fields, and then compare that with SB 202's bureaucratic (Orwellian?) reviews that are always watching and listening, undermining academic freedom and respect of Truth for the sake of satisfying the vague feelings of a fraction of the population, the best will always go elsewhere. The prospect of "malicious reporting" which is typical in places such as China and Russia that have imposed similar bureaucratic oversights on academic faculty in order to achieve "cultural harmony" (i.e., to not produce any tension with the insecurities and fears held by their general populations) is not insignificant. There is absolutely no legitimate reason to expose our state and our institutions to such a risk, and it is certainly in violation of the principles of classical liberalism that our Nation "at its best" has tried to uphold.

Moreover, tenure exists precisely because work that is done at the cutting edge of our collective perspective and knowledge is always contentious and prone to skepticism and perhaps suspicion by those outside that field of work. This is true going back to the times of Copernicus and Galileo, and even Socrates. There must be a place for some of our best and brightest to pursue research and to explore perspectives that are unsuitable for commercial research either due to high risk or time-investment, or lack of marketizability and profitability of outcomes. Such research is necessary to expand our human pursuit of Truth and inspire not just economic activity but, more importantly, a broader range of human reflection and activity that allows individuals to create vibrant meaning and rich coherence in their lives; this is a pre-requisite for a truly free population to make both a market economy and a democratic political system that are worth engaging in and improving.

Liberty must always be constrained by Truth; diversity is only adaptive in situations where the Truth is unknown (or unknowable) and multiple pathways must be explored in its pursuit. The hard part is judging what counts as Truth, and even whether there is a single Truth or a plurality of context-dependent Truths, especially in this day and age. That is a task which is best left to those within each field – they are competitors with one another, while also generally cooperating within their larger academic community. Self-regulation is always preferable to State-regulation when it suffices, and there is no firm, objective, well-defined evidence that academic self-regulation has somehow recently become insufficient in any way.

Moreover, how could one ever hope to accurately and precisely define what “intellectual diversity” means for so many different fields of study? It is difficult enough to list out and consider diversity for simple categorical descriptives such as ethnic and religious diversity. To attempt to accurately and precisely codify and bureaucratize and regulate diversity for something as abstract and amorphous as the realm of ideas within each academic field is truly impossible; at best, it will be a nonproductive mess and at worst it will be a mess that is abused for the sake of biased political agendas as in China and Russia.

In summary, the people best suited to review research and education in higher education are the people who have devoted their careers to it and who are competitors and peers within their fields; that is what we already have with the current system of tenure reviews and faculty annual reviews. To impose some additional bureaucratic oversight upon that, especially for such ill-defined ends as “intellectual diversity” which can potentially be bent and manipulated toward biased ends and which certainly would impose significant drag on higher education in our state, will amount to a fundamental handicap on the growth and improvement of life in Indiana. Our state already suffers from many struggles with poor quality of life measures across many categories, we do not need to dig ourselves into an even deeper hole with SB 202.

Please stand up for our state and for responsible small government by saying NO to SB 202.

Best regards,

Jessica Warren
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Alexa McCall
University of Notre Dame
alexa.mccall@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Alexa McCall
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Daniel Ramras
Indiana University-Indianapolis
danramras@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

This bill would force nearly every member of my department to go through a yet-to-be established process of post-tenure review in Fall 2024 in order to keep our jobs. The bill's language indicates that this review process would be controlled by the Board of Trustees, with no clear role for the academic institution at which we have all served for more than a decade. We have devoted our careers to Indiana University, but if our integrity as educators and researchers is to be interrogated by small appointed board every five years, many of us will devote our efforts to finding new jobs instead of focusing on what we truly care about - our students and our research.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Daniel Ramras
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Jill Kinkade
Another institution in Indiana
jakinkad@aol.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jill Kinkade
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Sara Marcus
University of Notre Dame
saramarcus@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. Indiana's universities are important engines of development for our state, and this bill would weaken them considerably. Please do what's best for our state and don't let government intrude on the intellectual and teaching work that makes Indiana strong!

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state and its reputation. Our world-class faculty will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sara Marcus
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Teri Kirby
Purdue University-West Lafayette
kirbyta@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Teri Kirby
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Emily Wang
University of Notre Dame
emily.ambrose.wang@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Emily Wang
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Don Maxwell
Indiana State University
donald.maxwell@indstate.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. I speak for myself and not for the institution at which I teach. I watched nearly the entirety of televised testimony by witnesses during the February 14 hearings and did not see compelling or overwhelming evidence that the current system is doing a lot of harm to students at public universities in Indiana. I argue that the bill would do the opposite—harming students by wrecking public higher education in Indiana so that it is incompatible with world-class systems.

If there is indeed cause for concern about conservative students being reluctant to attend public universities in Indiana, let that concern be borne out by a third-party study. I worry that with the unusual requirements of this bill, public universities in Indiana would not be able to attract leading scholars and in some cases, the money that those scholars would attract in grants. Students from Indiana, elsewhere in the United States, and around the world would not be attracted to study in Indiana. Public universities in Indiana run the risk of not being accreditable in certain fields if faculty are not allowed to voice points of view that might be controversial in some circles, such as abortion care. Indiana students would perhaps be driven to in-state private universities or to out-of-state schools, with the higher price of that education contributing to student loan debt. Those who leave the state for education might well remain out of state, draining off young people who could have been contributing to our state as doctors, teachers, and lawyers.

This bill would seem to want to reinvent the wheel, as it were, by taking review of faculty dossiers out of the hands of their peers, in a system that has been carefully developed over decades, with the approval of university boards of trustees, most of which were appointed by the governor of Indiana. I question putting trustees in the position of directly evaluating dossiers. They are not necessarily attuned to the international system of higher education in which Indiana public universities and their faculty members seek to thrive and to which they bring renown and professional leadership to the state of Indiana. Many fields of study adhere to international standards that might be outside the ken of trustees. The time and expense—to taxpayers—of re-reviewing the dossiers of 20% of faculty every year. I think that it would be better to allow the public universities themselves to create and manage post-tenure reviews, much as Indiana State University already does. Many universities already have in place a system for students to evaluate faculty members and for “red flags” to be raised—and heeded—when faculty members are unprofessional in carrying out their duties.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Don Maxwell
Indiana State University

February 2024

Kathryn Dinardo
Another institution in Indiana
dinardokathryn@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kathryn Dinardo
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Christopher Miller
University of Notre Dame
cmille34@nd.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Christopher Miller
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Beate Gilliar
Manchester University
bcgilliar@manchester.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Beate Gilliar
Manchester University

February 2024

Vivian Halloran
Indiana University-Bloomington
vhallora@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Vivian Halloran
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Jessica Campbell
An institution NOT in Indiana
jdyer6@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jessica Campbell
An institution NOT in Indiana

February 2024

Harold Cooper
Purdue University-West Lafayette
hkcooper@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

The idea of passing legislation in response to "perceptions" of higher education and because some students claim they felt "uncomfortable" is truly astounding. No evidence has been provided that any student has been discriminated against due to their political beliefs. I believe that every student at Purdue should feel "uncomfortable" in the classroom at some point in their education. If not, then they are not pushing their own boundaries with respect to learning new and sometimes difficult subjects and that is what needs to happen for individuals to learn and grow. This includes learning other viewpoints than the one in which a student was raised to better understand the diverse and interconnected world in which we live. As an anthropology much of my job is teaching about culture and cultural differences. There are moments in the classroom when learning how others view the world can make one uncomfortable, but what is being suggested in this bill is an effort to unnecessarily insert politics into the classroom. I am also concerned that when pressed on the details of this bill Sen. Deery mentioned anti-semitism. Anti-semitism is a real and growing threat in this country, but it is primarily used by the political right to ensure white supremacists continue to vote Republican. I am concerned that when Sen. Deery uses the phrase "anti-semitism" he may be confusing recent protests against the genocide and ethnic-cleansing of Palestinians with actual anti-Jewish sentiment.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Harold Cooper
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Nathan Schmidt
Indiana University-Indianapolis
schmidna@iu.edu

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

My name is Nathan Schmidt, and I am a postdoctoral fellow at the Indianapolis Arts and Humanities Institute at IU Indianapolis. I speak here only for myself, not on behalf of my institution. As an early career scholar, I have deep misgivings about SB 202 and the chilling effect it will have on free speech and academic discourse in our state. This bill will also make Indiana a much less desirable place for the most qualified young scholars to stay and work--why would we stay in a place that actively polices us, when we can teach in states that respect academic freedom?

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Nathan Schmidt, Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Julia Kiesel
Another institution in Indiana
jgalbus.kiesel@usi.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

Please vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. The regulations are impossible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Julia Kiesel
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Melissa Cyders
Indiana University-Indianapolis
mcyders@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will restrict both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and affect the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science, and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, harm its reputation, and lead its world-class faculty to other states, while also hampering the ability to hire new, prestigious faculty.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Melissa Cyders
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Catherine Macris
Indiana University-Indianapolis
macris.catherine@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Catherine Macris
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Clifford Sadof
Purdue University-West Lafayette
csadof@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

As an Extension Entomologist and Professor in Purdue's School of Agriculture for 34 years, I have had the privilege of helping All Hoosiers navigate the loss of millions of ash trees to Emerald Ash Borer. Due to the prevalence of ash trees in urban areas I went to great lengths to be sure that information made it to the underserved and affluent communities.

Passage of SB 202 would have diluted by efforts to protect Hoosiers from the impacts of losing these trees on their health and property values. As a recognized expert in the discipline my duty has been to deliver useful knowledge to those who need it. Forcing my programs to go through the political filter created by SB 202 would have hampered my efforts and increased the level of pain and suffering in Hoosier Communities.

Furthermore, SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Clifford Sadof
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Franki Kung
Purdue University-West Lafayette
fkung@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 violates the fundamental value of academic freedom and open inquiry. It will undermine *both* conservative and liberal speech on campus, and harm *both* conservative and liberal scholars' ability to exercise their expertise to teach and research.

SB 202 will also instill fear and censorship in the university climate. I am already hearing faculty members wanting to move away from Indiana if the bill goes through. I am confident it will also significantly undermine our state's ability to recruit world-class faculty.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic, introducing extra administrative burdens and problems.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers.

SB 202 will be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Franki Kung
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Ximena Bernal
Purdue University-West Lafayette
xbernal@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ximena Bernal
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jonathan Risner
Indiana University-Bloomington
jtrisner@indiana.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jonathan Risner
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Janice Evans
Purdue University-West Lafayette
janiceevans@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I speak for myself but from the perspective of someone who has led an academic department at Purdue. SB 202 is costly in terms of resources needed, particularly people power. This is unnecessarily bureaucracy, as Purdue University and other universities across our state already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Janice Evans
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Daniel Olson
Purdue University-West Lafayette
olsondaj@hotmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Vote no on SB

Dear Rep. Behning,

I am an Indiana resident and faculty member at Purdue University, although the opinions expressed here are mine alone.

I am STRONGLY opposed to SB-202, and urge you to vote against its passage out of committee.

My opposition is based on three principle factors:

(1) This legislation is directly opposed to the notion of academic freedom, as detailed in the American Association of University Professor's 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure.

(2) This legislation is directly opposed to Purdue University's own policies, as detailed in Principles and Policies for Academic Freedom, Responsibilities and Tenure, and Procedures for Termination of Faculty Appointments for Cause (B-48) and the policy on Academic Freedom (I.A.4).

(3) This legislation will harm Purdue University's competitiveness, making the university less able to attract and retain faculty relative to our peer institutions (e.g., Big10) who operate in a state or climate where such review does not exist.

To uphold the principles of academic freedom and to ensure that Indiana remains competitive in its ability to attract and retain top academic performers, I STRONGLY URGE you to vote against this dangerous legislation.

Respectfully yours,
Daniel J. Olson

Best regards,

Daniel Olson
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Chad Bauman
Butler University
cbauman@butler.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Chad Bauman
Butler University

February 2024

Nayo Ulloa
Another institution in Indiana
nayomusic@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Nayo Ulloa
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Julia Kowalski
University of Notre Dame
julia.kowalski@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Julia Kowalski
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Peggy Lewis
Ball State University
pegalewis@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Peggy Lewis
Ball State University

February 2024

Heather Ciesielski
Purdue University-West Lafayette
hciesiel@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana. I recently participated in a panel forum that was addressing the significant lack of professional services provided in the state of Indiana and the panel is actively working to increase the number of professionals who remain in Indiana after completing their training. These professionals are critical in addressing the significant shortage of healthcare and mental healthcare workers in the state. Approving SB 202 will directly counteract that effort and, not only will it be extremely detrimental to the recruitment of professionals, it will cause more of our current faculty to leave the state.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Heather Ciesielski
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Randolph Hubach
Purdue University-West Lafayette
rhubach@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will have a financial negative impact on communities surrounding our university campuses. IU, Purdue, and others will lose the opportunity to recruit and retain top-tier faculty who bring millions of grant dollars to these institutions. These grant dollars are directly used to hire research, program, and administrative staff from Indiana—thereby lifting up our local economies. Without the generation of new grants or by faculty leaving Indiana for other institutions, these positions employing Hoosiers will cease to exist.

Passing the bill will damage the reputation and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Randolph Hubach
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Julia Valdes
Indiana State University
julia.valdes@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I am the granddaughter of Cuban immigrants, my father was born in Cuba. My family left in the 1960s because they knew they would not be able to send their kids to a school that would not teach them propaganda. This is not a conservative or liberal issue--my family is very conservative and sent their children to Catholic schools.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic. Students will be less likely to attend universities in Indiana as a result of this bill, causing further costs to our state. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Julia Valdes
Indiana State University

February 2024

Trenton Jones
Purdue University-West Lafayette
colejones@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Thank you,

T. Cole Jones, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of History

Best regards,

Trenton Jones
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Ania Spyra
Butler University
aspyra@butler.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

My best,
Ania Spyra~

Best regards,

Ania Spyra
Butler University

February 2024

Jennifer Erickson
Ball State University
jerickson974@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. It's government oversight where there shouldn't be and creating problems where there are no problems.

SB 202 will diminish conservative both and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of all scholars, not just liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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Vote no on SB 202.

Best regards,

Jennifer Erickson
Ball State University

February 2024

Gabriel Popescu
Indiana University-South Bend
gpopescu@iusb.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Gabriel Popescu
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Molly Hare
Indiana State University
molly.hare@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Molly Hare
Indiana State University

February 2024

Scott McAdam
Purdue University-West Lafayette
smcadam@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Scott McAdam
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Ishan Ashutosh
Indiana University-Bloomington
iashutos@indiana.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ishan Ashutosh
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Amanda Lubold
Indiana State University
alubold@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Amanda Lubold
Indiana State University

February 2024

Robert Arnové
Indiana University-Bloomington
arnove@indiana.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Robert Arnové
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Purnima Bose
Indiana University-Bloomington
pbose@indiana.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

If this bill passes, it will lower the value of a university degree from state institutions, as the quality of faculty declines as a result of faculty (and their grant dollars) flight from the state.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Purnima Bose
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Betsy Lucal
Indiana University-South Bend
blucal@iusb.edu

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202. I speak for myself, not my university or any other entity. Oppose this bill to keep higher education in Indiana strong and independent of political interference. Such opposition supports our students, citizens of Indiana and our mission as educators. We don't tell our students what to think. We simply want them to think for themselves. Thanks for your consideration.

Best regards,

Betsy Lucal
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Karen Graubart
University of Notre Dame
kgraubar@nd.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Karen Graubart
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Colleen Chesnut
Indiana University-Bloomington
gringuitarubia@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Colleen Chesnut
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Kathryn Maxson Jones
Purdue University-West Lafayette
kmaxson@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kathryn Maxson Jones
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Mallory Barnes
Indiana University-Bloomington
mallory.L.barnes@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Mallory Barnes
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Stacie King
Indiana University-Bloomington
kingsm@indiana.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 is poorly written and is vague and fundamentally it will destroy both conservative and liberal speech on campus and scholarly discourse and critical debate - the very thing that students come to IU to learn. Good ideas emerge from diverse perspectives - this is what good colleges and universities teach and encourage. This bill aims to stifle discourse and discourage the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. The great scholars that we have attracted to IU will not want to stay here and they will leave. This is something that we and our current and future students cannot afford.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Stacie King
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Benjamin Balthaser
Indiana University-South Bend
bbalthas@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 is bad for students. Key to a student's ability to speak freely is lack of fear of censure for everyone on campus. Rather than promote the views of all students, faculty and administration will simply avoid controversy of all kinds, meaning conservative and liberals alike will simply have fewer opportunities to discuss and learn vital histories, cultures and points of view, leaving everyone impoverished. What topic is not controversial potentially? Slavery? World War II, science, biology - few fields would actually be able to function if this passes. SB 202 would rob all students of an education and make IU a ghost town the state of Indiana.

Not only this, state colleges are engines of economic growth for which this threatens. This bill would also add many layers of bureaucracy and oversight, adding commissars instead of instructors to the classroom.

I urge you to vote no

Best regards,

Benjamin Balthaser
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Jacquelyn Boerman
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jboerma@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jacquelyn Boerman
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Rebecca-Eli Long
Purdue University-West Lafayette
long371@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. I am a PhD Candidate in Anthropology and Gerontology, as well as an instructor.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rebecca-Eli Long
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Young Jeong
Purdue University-West Lafayette
youngjeong@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Young Jeong
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Richard Johnson
Purdue University-West Lafayette
rjohnso@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: SB 202 Will Harm Indiana

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

This bill will have the opposite effect of what it seeks. If you put professors' tenure and promotion at risk, they will be reluctant to talk about civic issues at all in classes. That's not good for conservative or progressive students.

In my experience, partisan comments are uncommon, and most professors who discuss political issues try to foster discussion in an unbiased way. That's not completely possible, but we are more interested in promoting conversations than pushing a particular partisan viewpoint.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Richard Johnson
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Karthik Ramani
Purdue University-West Lafayette
ramani@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I'm writing to ask you to vote against SB 202. This bill is bad news for our colleges and universities.

If SB 202 becomes law, it will squash both conservative and liberal voices on campus. That means professors won't be able to freely discuss and research important topics. Instead of promoting academic freedom like it claims, this bill will tie the hands of our professors and hurt our schools' reputations. It might even force some of our best faculty to leave for states where they have more freedom and new students will not come anymore restricting even the state from earnings coming through a university. And moreover new technologies powering the state will come from other places globally.

SB 202 also adds a bunch of unnecessary rules and costs to our universities. But they already have ways to manage their staff without this bill. There's no plan or money to handle all the new rules, which could lead to big legal problems for our schools. Our school boards and leaders aren't ready for the extra work this bill would create.

If SB 202 passes, it could mean big trouble for Purdue University and other schools in Indiana. Professors might leave, and students who want a free and open education might go somewhere else. That would make our schools look worse and hurt our state's economy.

So, I'm asking you to vote NO on SB 202. Let's keep our schools strong and free.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely

Best regards,

Karthik Ramani
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Chelsea Song
Indiana University-Bloomington
chelsong@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Chelsea Song
Assistant Professor
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Heather Howard
Purdue University-West Lafayette
howar198@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Heather Howard
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Margo Monteith
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mmonteit@purdue.edu

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I am a Distinguished Professor in Psychological Sciences whose research area is related to understanding and reducing intergroup biases. I teach courses such as Social Psychology, Stereotyping and Prejudice, and Diversity and Inclusion. Given these topics, you might think that I have students complain -- even if just once in a while -- that their conservative opinions were not respected or that they did not feel welcome in my courses. This has never happened in my 32 years as a professor. My classrooms are comfortable and accepting environments for all students. Nonetheless, I am very concerned that Senate Bill 202 will invite students to be less open to learning and quick to identify problems ("Your statement does not respect intellectual diversity!") where -- after dialogue and deeper understanding of course material -- they would not levy such concerns. This bill threatens to depress learning and exaggerate ideological differences while putting professors like me at risk for being removed from the classroom. This is not a way to advance positive dialogue, compassion, cooperation, and respect among and for all students and beyond.

I also serve as the College of Health and Human Science's Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. In this role, I facilitate data collection for a campus survey administered every-other year at Purdue, called the Student Experience in the Research University Setting (SERU). For instance, we offer raffles for gift cards for students as an incentive to respond to the survey items. In 2022, the response rate for this survey in my college was 28.9% -- much higher than the 6% response rate for the Gallup poll that has been cited in connection with SB 202. Students reported their political orientation (liberal -- conservative) and the extent to which they agreed that 1) "I feel valued as an individual at Purdue", 2) "I belong at Purdue", and 3) "I'd still enroll at Purdue" (i.e., given what they now know about Purdue as students). For ALL OF THESE ITEMS, students who reported being more conservative were MUCH MORE LIKELY than liberal students to report that they feel valued as an individual (conservative: 66.7% agree; liberal: 47.8% agree), that they belong (conservative: 75.6% agree; liberal: 57.8% agree), and that they'd still enroll at Purdue (conservative: 75.7% agree; liberal: 68.4% agree). The College of Health and Human Sciences has disciplines that attract more liberal students than some other colleges on campus (e.g., College of Engineering). Even so, conservative students feel very valued and experience high belonging in the College of Health and Human Sciences. I fear the bill you are considering is founded on misguided and generalized conclusions from biased evidence; conservative students are not feeling unwelcomed on Indiana's higher education campuses. I am happy to provide the

reports with these data to you (mmonteit@purdue.edu; 765-496-9461) should you want access to solid evidence of conservative comfort at Purdue. Moreover, Purdue data analysts have these data for the full campus and can provide those data to you.

My role as Associate Dean for Diversity, Education, and Inclusion in the College of Health and Human Sciences has allowed me to bring much beneficial programming to students, staff and faculty, along with opportunities for learning and research collaborations on issues such as health equity. It would be a sad day indeed for these efforts to be stifled or eliminated. I would not be able to accept such a turn, and I would leave the university. I am not alone. Unfortunately, with the consideration of this bill underway and ramifications for academic freedom, 13 faculty members have already spontaneously mentioned to me that they would leave Purdue for positions elsewhere if SB 202 goes into effect. Faculty will not ignore the major discrepancy between this legislation and their professional values; Purdue will see great flight if SB 202 passes.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely,
Margo J. Monteith

February 2024

Yexiang Xue
Purdue University-West Lafayette
yexiang@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Yexiang Xue
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Claire Cumberland
Indiana University-Bloomington
cumberland.claire@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Vote NO! on SB 202, please and thank you.

Dear Rep. Behning,

Vote NO on SB 202!

SB 202 will chill speech on campus, and afflict the work of scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers, as well as humanities and social sciences. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

Oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Claire Cumberland
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Michelle Coverdale
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mcoverda@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will dampen both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and negatively affect the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and adversely impact its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Michelle Coverdale
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Rhodes Pinto
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
rpinto@purdue.edu

RE: Vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write as a member of the public expressing my own personal views and opinions, and these views are not to be regarded as official views of Purdue University.

I urge you strongly to vote no on SB 202, which will only harm the state of Indiana while not having the desired benefits.

The state has wisely determined a to develop a hard tech corridor, with IU and Purdue playing key roles in it. The simple reality is that when law puts restrictions on tenure and allows job security to be overturned (and in an unpredictable manner run by politically-appointed individuals), the good professors--the ones in demand--go elsewhere. Why choose a university where you do not have security over one where you do? I and many of my colleagues simply would have taken offers elsewhere. Thus the state undermines its plans as the best talent needed for the success of Indiana industry goes elsewhere.

Further, as has been shown from recent attempts at government intervention into educational decisions, the reality is that charges will be leveled by actors on both sides of the political spectrum (liberals trying to get the Bible banned from libraries in Florida). What this means is that conservative viewpoints will end up censored. The new Daniels School of Business is intended to be pro free-market capitalism, and indeed I teach a course that was conceived by the admin to align with that viewpoint. If SB 202 is passed, I will fear getting reported by liberal students, and so simply will stop teaching anything about the benefits of free-market capitalism. It does not matter if the complaints are not upheld; it is the fear of the process (I am busy and do not have the time to fight these things) and how this will look on my record. We already have good systems in place to deal with real issues; there is no need to take action that will leave us all afraid to teach anything that in any way relates to politics or society, which is a great loss to the students.

Please vote NO on SB 202

Best regards,

Rhodes Pinto
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Elliot Friedman
Purdue University-West Lafayette
efriedman@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. In addition to the arguments below, the entire premise of this bill is faulty. It is based on perceptions that faculty are indoctrinating students in particular ways of thinking, but there is no compelling evidence to support this perception. The survey data offered in support of this bill are worthless, based on a tiny fraction of the university student population - no scientist would ever treat these data as reliable, let alone a strong foundation for a radical piece of legislation.

The author of this bill, and his previous boss, Mitch Daniels, whose attitudes toward higher education generally and tenure specifically are well represented in this bill, have claimed that tenure is job security. This is the least important aspect of tenure and also untrue. Tenured faculty, appropriately, can be dismissed for just or sufficient cause. There is also already regular review of tenured faculty. But more importantly, tenure ensures that faculty can pursue their research without political interference - this is the essence of academic freedom. Far from ensuring greater freedom, this bill will stifle it, and in so doing will relegate higher education in Indiana to backwater status.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Elliot Friedman
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Nasreen Lalani
Purdue University-West Lafayette
nasreensulaiman@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Nasreen Lalani
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Xianfan Xu
Purdue University-West Lafayette
xxu@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill speech on campus. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering (where I am with) as well as those in other disciplines, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty. SB202 will significantly affect our ability of recruiting and retention of faculty.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Xianfan Xu
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Carol Ott
Purdue University-West Lafayette
caott@iupui.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

The Oath of a Pharmacist requires, in part, that I "will apply my knowledge, experience, and skills to the best of my ability to assure optimal outcomes for ALL patients". I teach topics related to the treatment of patients with mental health, substance use, and neurologic disorders and the language of this bill has caused me to reconsider how I teach these topics to the potential detriment of pharmacy students at Purdue University.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Carol Ott, PharmD, MPH, BCPP
Clinical Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Purdue University College of Pharmacy

I speak for myself, not for Purdue University, the College of Pharmacy, or the Department of Pharmacy Practice

February 2024

Jennifer Grouling Snider
Ball State University
jennifer.grouling@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jennifer Grouling Snider
Ball State University

February 2024

Jennifer Lee
Indiana University-Indianapolis
ilexhelix@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to urge you to vote NO on SB 202. For a university to be respected state wide, nation wide, and world wide, its faculty need to adhere to the highest standards of their disciplines, as overseen by the process of peer review. The purpose of tenure is to protect the products of the academic process, that is, knowledge and ways of understanding the world, from the political opinions of individuals, including members of the faculty themselves. As part of our training, most of us have learned to welcome discussions involving many different perspectives. Civil discourse includes room for disagreement. Indiana's universities must continue to be places where all participants can discuss differing viewpoints guided by the standards of academic disciplines. This has long been a strength of Indiana's institutions of higher learning. SB 202 threatens not only the richness and depth of education in Indiana but the value of an Indiana education in the broader world.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Lee

Best regards,

Jennifer Lee
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Sean Bartz
Indiana State University
sean.bartz@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sean Bartz
Indiana State University

February 2024

Christie Sennott
Purdue University-West Lafayette
csennott@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

Hello! I write to ask you to please vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 is not productive. It will reduce free speech on both sides of the political spectrum on campus and it will afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. Just as faculty have fled FL as it moves notably away from free speech, faculty will flee Indiana.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Christie Sennott
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Ronald Stephens
Purdue University-West Lafayette
stephe87@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ronald Stephens
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Kathryn LaRoche
Purdue University-West Lafayette
kjaroch@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Dr. Kathryn LaRoche, PhD, MSc
Assistant Professor of Public Health, Purdue University.

I am sending this letter on behalf of myself and not on based on the official position of my department or Purdue University.

February 2024

Deandrae Smith
Purdue University-West Lafayette
smit4870@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Deandrae Smith
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Fernanda San Martin Gonzalez
Purdue University-West Lafayette
fsanmartin@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Fernanda San Martin Gonzalez
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Aaron Ganci
Indiana University-Indianapolis
aaron.ganci@icloud.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Aaron Ganci
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Melissa Geiger
Purdue University-West Lafayette
geiger1@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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Melissa Geiger
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

April McCandless
Another institution in Indiana
aprillmccandless@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

College should encourage idea exchange and open conversation to foster learning. SB 202 seems to be striving to accomplish the exact opposite on all sides. SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Best regards,

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Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

LaMonica Williams
Purdue University-West Lafayette
lcwms04@gmail.com

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Best regards,

LaMonica Williams
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Anna Bednarski
Indiana University-Bloomington
abednars@indiana.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. I am a constituent of Rep. Bob Heating, and I am severely disappointed in his sponsorship of this bill.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Anna Bednarski
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Joan M Blankenship
Indiana University-East
jmelissab@hotmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

Please accept this letter in opposition to the passage of SB 202. As a member of an underrepresented group, I earned my undergraduate degree at Indiana University East (IUE), and appreciated the open-minded, caring, and conscientious way that my professors taught their courses. The academic setting lends itself to discussion of a variety of issues, including those on which people disagree. Safe discussions over differences between individuals and communities is one core pillar of what college is meant to be about, guiding students through development of important skills in critical thinking.

My education led me to pursue and earn a masters in fine arts, and to take on the mantle of teaching at my alma mater. Thinking back to my time as an IUE student, I cannot imagine how my instructors could have managed instruction without the protection of tenure, and the ability to teach students how to unpack a controversial issue and seek common ground within it. My instructors regularly noted that one of their responsibilities is to teach students how to think (critical thinking) and not what to think regarding critical areas of discourse. My love of education led me to serve as a college educator, and I have called IUE home for more than 15 years in this capacity.

The implication of policy changes with SB 202 alarm me, but more than that, I do not see the necessity for it. IUE has a strong anti-discrimination policy that governs everything we do, and I cleave to its tenets. This means that I ensure that the voices and ideas of all students are welcome in my classroom because it is through the exchange of diverse opinions in a safe and supportive environment that prepares each one of them to be active, well-educated citizens who will elevate our state to a world-class place where all people feel welcome.

As a result, students in all disciplines are better prepared because they will interact with and serve people from all levels of society who have different belief systems and life experiences in their professional work. A diverse education helps them connect with those they serve, from patients, business partners, educational institutions, coworkers, and members of their

communities, as well as to serve as an important adjunct to problems facing the world today. Problem-solving through using their critical thinking skills is paramount to getting things done. When I moved here in 2002, I wondered how I could be effective.

A study had been recently conducted that revealed that Wayne County had the highest rate of illiteracy in the state. I began working with students in Spring 2004 at my institution as a writing tutor, and by Fall 2006 was teaching autonomously in English. I encountered literacy issues so often that I wondered if I could be effective; however, I believe that I am in education for a reason, and I push myself to do everything I could for my students. This includes keeping my own beliefs regarding religion, gender, race, age, social class, and ability secret to ensure that each student feels safe within discussion.

While my position as a senior lecturer is not a tenured one, I worry that this bill will hurt tenure among Indiana universities and colleges. IU already has post-tenure review policies in place to deal with issues that warrant it, and it seems redundant to add this at the state level. The faculty and administration of our public institution seem best suited to dealing with any post-tenure issues which arise, and IU takes this very seriously. If faculty do not have academic freedom to conduct their research without worry for retribution and punishment for investigating unpopular ideas and issues, then they will not stay. They will seek out institutions that trust and guide their work, with safeguards in place to manage resulting issues.

We need only look to Florida's similar attacks on education and the tenure process to understand what could happen in Indiana should SB 202 pass. Faculty are leaving state institutions in Florida and applicants for vacant positions are sparse. In addition, students have left institutions of higher education in Florida or have chosen not to apply to them. This includes natives of the state. The result is a growing brain drain.

The Indiana state legislature has noted for years a brain drain from our state as graduating high school students look for institutions outside the state, or, after earning their degrees from an Indiana university or college, move out of the state because they do not want to live with Indiana's repressive and draconian social policies. To curb this brain drain, the legislature has taken further steps to prevent this by saddling public institutions of higher education with the unattainable burden of tying funding to keeping students in state following graduation, yet these institutions have little power to accomplish this. We are already seeing faculty leave because of this draconian measure and passing SB 202 will create more problems than it promises to solve.

Furthermore, language within the bill seems contradictory. For example, the bill includes the language "to promote recruitment and retention of underrepresented (instead of minority) students" which ignores the fact that "underrepresented" includes "minority." This strongly suggests that the intention of the Indiana legislature is to eliminate this status by deliberately holding the position that racism is okay. Current research strongly indicates that non-white students are less likely to complete their degrees due to generational discrimination, and social practices which keep them from achieving the same milestones as white students. I find this quite alarming. If "race" is not a category of "underrepresented" then what is? The bill is quite vague as to how this is defined.

In conclusion, I strongly argue that SB 202 has no place in Indiana. Please trust educators in this state to continue the valuable work they do to increase the intellectual development, elevate the learning potential, of students who graduate with the skills and readiness to take on the challenges of Indiana.
Please vote "no" on SB 202.

Best regards,

Joan M Blankenship
Indiana University-East

February 2024

Olga Dmitrieva
Purdue University-West Lafayette
odmitrie@purdue.edu

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Olga Dmitrieva
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Dawn Holder
Indiana University-Indianapolis
dawngholder@yahoo.com

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Dawn Holder
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Peter Meckl
Purdue University-West Lafayette
meckl@purdue.edu

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Best regards,

Peter Meckl
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Audrey Sherwood
Purdue University-West Lafayette
asherwo@purdue.edu

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I am a staff member at Purdue University deeply involved in faculty hiring, promotion and tenure evaluation, and merit reviews, and have seen first-hand, how difficult it is to find and recruit top-notch scholars who are willing to work in academia instead of industry where they make much more money, and second, wanting to come live in Indiana when they could be living in Georgia, Michigan, Massachusetts, or California where our top competitors are. Add to it the chilling effect of knowing students could report them for opposition to their political opinions and how schools in other states without this kind of law will use it as leverage to attract folks away who we are trying to hire, and I see our lagging faculty hiring problem, which has led to exploding student-to-faculty ratios, will only get worse.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate. As the person in my department primarily responsible for this workload in tandem with individual faculty members, there is already far too much red tape around hiring, promotion and tenure, and merit reviews that make those processes long, burdensome, and expensive for faculty members, who should be able to focus on teaching and research, and staff, who will have more and more hoops to jump through with no additional funding for the extra workload that will be imposed on them. Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

Best regards,

Audrey Sherwood
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Meganne Masko
Indiana University-Indianapolis
megannekmasko@gmail.com

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Meganne Masko
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Eileen Misluk
Indiana University-Indianapolis
emisluk@gmail.com

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Furthermore, this expedites the "brain drain" in Indiana as academics in higher education and researchers will leave or choose to teach in states that respect their intellectual freedom.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Eileen Misluk
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Maria S Sepulveda
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mssepulv@purdue.edu

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Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Laura Holzman
Indiana University-Indianapolis
lauraholzman@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

Republican leaders: please honor your commitment to small government and do not add this extra, unnecessary, and costly layer of restrictions to university operations.

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Best regards,

Laura Holzman
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Sarah Reifel
Purdue University-West Lafayette
seckhar@purdue.edu

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Sarah Reifel
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

C C
Purdue University-West Lafayette
dlisch@purdue.edu

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C C
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Elaine Cardella-Tedesco
Indiana University-Indianapolis
ecardellatedesco@iu.edu

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Elaine Cardella-Tedesco
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Andrew Winship
Indiana University-Indianapolis
winship.andrew@gmail.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

Approval of this bill will have a massive negative impact on our state's economy. Innovation and research in technology and medicine will diminish and retreat to those states supporting academic freedom unhindered by politicized and unnecessary government overreach when it comes to higher education and academic research. This negative impact has already been documented and proven in states that have passed similar bills.

Approval of this bill will accelerate the brain drain of the state and deter recruitment of talent in all aspects Hoosier business and its economy. The research justifying the bill is not accurate and reflects the wishes of a select few trying to secure political points at the cost of not only taxpayer's money but the welfare and economy of the entire state of Indiana.

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Marian Shaaban
Indiana University-Bloomington
marianshaaban@Gmail.com

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SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Marian Shaaban
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Ulrike Dydak
Purdue University-West Lafayette
udydak@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ulrike Dydak
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Ray Martyn
Purdue University-West Lafayette
rmartyn@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. I spent my 45-year career at three of the most prestigious Land Grant universities in the country: University of Florida, Texas A&M University and Purdue University. My carrer flourished because the universities flourished. I have now retired and live in Florida and I have seen what Gov. DeSantis has done to our state universities. He has dismantled entire programs because he thinks they are "woke" and unimportant. He has replaced the governing bodies with his personal political hacks. In just two years, the flagship university in FLorida, - "The Univ. Florida", has dropped in the national public university rankings from #2 to #8! This is a direct result of DeSantis' attack on programs he doesn't agree with. Indian Senate bill 202 will do the same to Purdue University, Indiana University and the rest of Indiana's public universities and colleges. The best and brightest students and faculty will go elsewhere. Senate bill 202 is a misguided attempt to "fix a problem that does not exist". SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

R.D. Martyn; Professor Emeritus, Purdue University

Best regards,

Ray Martyn
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Angela Lexmond
Indiana University-Bloomington
lexmonda@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

Employers will be wondering whether Indiana is a place they would want to move their headquarters or open a plant. I suspect their pushback will be what ultimately gets your attention. But here is how the impact will be felt first on University campuses across IN.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Angela Lexmond, Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Anne Magnan-Park
Indiana University-South Bend
amagnanp@iusb.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Anne Magnan-Park
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Juan Garcia
Purdue University-West Lafayette
garci485@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Juan Garcia
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Sherry Stone
Indiana University-Indianapolis
sstonecl@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I am a Teaching Professor recently retired from IU-Indianapolis. This is a non-tenured position devoted to teaching, but I fully support the tenure process's protection of speech. Protection of speech is tenure's only real purpose, because it does not protect faculty from misconduct, failure to do their jobs, or poor research practices as some people believe.

Unintended consequences need to be considered when voting yes for this bill. First, it works both ways. Both conservative and liberal speech will be suppressed. It also seems more directed at the humanities and social sciences, but it will stifle research in the medical, business, engineering and other schools as well. Ultimately, it will erode the prestige of our state universities and degrade the economic impact of their work on the state. Further, it will hamper the ability of our universities to attract and keep world class faculty.

Finally, as an alumna of Indiana University, I resent that this bill replaces two alumni elected seats on the Boards of Trustees with two political appointees of the state legislature whose only presence seems to be to police tenure and post tenure reviews for political correctness. It extinguishes my representation and voice on the board and clearly sets the universities up for the possibility of a political purge. No where in the proposed legislation does it guarantee that the legislative political seats reflect an understanding or appreciation of the educational system.

Therefore, I ask that you oppose SB 202.

Thank you for your time.

Best regards,

Sherry Stone, Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Margaret Phillips
Purdue University-West Lafayette
margaret.strain@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Please note, I speak for myself and not for my institution, school, or department.

Prof. Margaret Phillips
Associate Professor, Libraries & School of Information Studies
Purdue University

February 2024

Brittany Garvin
Indiana University-Indianapolis
brgarvin@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Brittany Garvin
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Olivia Palepoi
Purdue University-West Lafayette
opalepoi@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Olivia Palepoi
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Michael Gurlea
Ball State University
mpgurlea@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Michael Gurlea
Ball State University

February 2024

James Messina
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jpmessin@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please consider substantial changes to SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

Please see below my comments on SB 202.

Senate Bill 202, Free Expression, and the Future of Higher Education in Indiana

J.P. Messina

Note: These opinions are my own and do not represent the view of my employer, Purdue University.

With Senate Bill 202, Indiana is poised to join other red states in making drastic changes to its public universities. While I share many of the concerns that animate legislators, I argue that SB 202 represents a cure worse than the disease it is designed to treat.

What is that disease? In brief, legislators worry that state public universities have become intellectual monocultures, hostile to the ideals of open inquiry that have made them one of America's greatest success stories. I am worried too. Since finishing my PhD in 2018, I have spent most of my time thinking about free expression and the importance of intellectual diversity for our knowledge communities, and it seems to me that all is not well on our university campuses.

Throughout my twelve years as a graduate student and later a faculty member, across six institutions, I have seen conservatives, radical leftists, and libertarians openly denigrated by their political opponents within the university. I have witnessed students silenced for expressing views (germane to class discussions and relatively widespread among the larger population) when they were at odds with a faculty member's views. I have seen professors act as if the range of scholarly disagreement is much narrower than it in fact is. I have seen prospective job candidates passed over for opportunities on nakedly ideological grounds (and survey data suggests that a distressing number of faculty would so discriminate if given the chance). And I have looked on as other institutions have moved to deplatform intellectuals with valuable things to say. None of this reflects well on the intellectual climate on university campuses.

Ostensibly, SB 202 will set things aright. And it's worth noting several respects in which it is likely to do some real good. For example, pushing campuses to define their free speech policies, outline sanctions for violators, and educate newcomers will ensure that community-members know their rights, so that they can better exercise them. Collecting data on campuses' expressive culture to ensure that these policies are serving their purposes is only sensible. Forcing state universities to remain neutral on controversial moral, ideological, and political issues will put a stop to institutions' tendency to issue sweeping statements on matters of public concern that erase dissenters and chill their expression of contrary ideas. Prompting diversity committees to consider among their various programming goals intellectual diversity is a good corrective for institutions that too often fail to give an adequate voice to heterodox opinion. And banning hiring, recruiting, and admissions committees from requiring pledges of allegiance appropriately rejects the appropriateness of compelled speech.

Yet, the bill's other provisions are likely to cause damage to state institutions of higher education in excess of these benefits. Some of the damage will be to the free speech culture on state campuses, the very culture the bill's sponsors aim to improve by its means.

First, the bill directs hiring and performance review committees to consider candidates' likelihood to (i) support a culture of free speech on campus, (ii) present a range of discipline-appropriate ideological views in their teaching, and (iii) to refrain from subjecting students and mentors to their non-job relevant political opinions. This can sound good. And yet there is much scholarly opinion that questions the sacrosanct values of free speech and free inquiry and much disagreement about what they demand in practice. Teaching responsibly on policy-relevant topics requires helping students grapple with the best arguments for and against various positions, including for and against various understandings of free speech. Hiring and retaining faculty sympathetic with these skeptical arguments (as they nevertheless complying with university rules and procedures) is crucial to ideological diversity itself. As Mill teaches us, we cannot rely, for our understanding, on a skeptic's presentation of her opponent's argument, but must allow the opponent to air her own defense. So far as it signals that scholars who do not line up under the banner of free speech and free inquiry are not welcome on Indiana campuses, SB 202 limits the degree to which these kinds of institutions can realize the kind of intellectual diversity sponsors prize.

Second, knowing that they can be evaluated along these dimensions can exert a substantial chilling effect on faculty members' job-relevant speech. This is so especially because SB 202 directs university Boards of Trustees to create a system in which students (and other community members) can report behavior inconsistent with these expectations. Such reports can then serve as grounds for termination, demotion, reduction of pay or other disciplinary actions — actions which can be most-effectively wielded against non-tenured and non-tenure-track faculty, but apply too to tenured faculty. In inviting students, faculty, staff, and contractors to report on unprotected faculty behavior, SB 202 undermines a culture of trust that is crucial for teaching controversial ideas. Such discussions are prone to misunderstanding. In the course of meaningful dialogues across difference, emotions can run hot and people can easily confuse a person's expressing their opinion for the suppression of others' contrary opinions. Those who teach controversial issues (including those pertaining to DEI —

diveristy, equity, and inclusion) “ even those who do everything right to create an atmosphere for free discussion “ can be branded as ideologues by students that don’t yet understand that respecting free inquiry does not require deference to their deeply held views. If such students report faculty, they can lose their jobs. With stakes this high, why bother teaching controversy at all?

Similarly, vague demands to include a range of discipline appropriate works across the ideological spectrum undermine faculty freedom to determine what content is appropriate for students in a particular class. If a faculty member in good faith interprets the range more narrowly than her Board of Trustees, she can lose or be denied tenure. Anxious to avoid such outcomes, educators might include content that worsens the quality of their classes, against their professional judgment, to ensure her job security.

To emphasize, third, SB 202 would substantially weaken tenure at Indiana universities, allowing it to be denied or revoked if a candidate has failed to reinforce a culture of free speech on campus (as outlined above), and revoked if a tenure faculty member’s performance is deemed otherwise unsatisfactory. Though it is costly (protecting unproductive faculty from termination), tenure offers crucial protection for faculty to conduct controversial research and to challenge students’ received views in the classroom. SB 202 severely compromises this protection by instituting a burdensome system of post-tenure review (in which a tenured faculty member’s performance on the above criteria is reviewed every 5 years). This requires producing and evaluating tens of thousands of pages of paperwork each year.

In weakening tenure protections, SB 202 does not merely threaten academic freedom by allowing new pretenses for disciplining faculty whose research or pedagogy is deemed politically problematic. It also deprives Indiana universities of a crucial recruiting resource. If I am choosing between accepting a job in Indiana under SB 202 and a job in Massachusetts which has genuine tenure protections, I must now ask myself: how much in monetary terms do I value real tenure, rather than “Indiana-tenure” ? If the pay in Indiana does not compensate the difference, so much the worse for the Indiana university and the quality of education and research they’re produced.

Unfortunately, the bill’s language surrounding the kinds of evidence that the board can use to discipline faculty under these provisions is broad and vague in ways that amplify these concerns. Not only can “past performance” be a source of evidence of a likely failure to toe the line on free expression and other board-instituted review criteria, but board members can also base their “determinations” on unspecified additional factors. Tenure under SB 202 offers thin protection indeed.

To be concerned about these changes, one need not fear that one fails to promote values of free expression and open inquiry in one’s teaching and research. One need only fear that one might sometimes be perceived to fall short, and that this perception might be supported upon review. One need only fear that, in times of budget crisis or political turmoil, university boards of trustees might face short-run incentives to augment post-tenure review criteria in ways that allow them to cull the faculty ranks in ways that are deeply incompatible with their institutions’ long-run teaching and research missions. Of course, SB 202 says that nothing

in the bill shall be construed to restrict academic freedom, including the freedom to teach and research DEI issues. But it's hard to take such a stipulation seriously in view of the mechanisms that it sets up.

In short, if you are serious about improving the state of free expression on Indiana campuses, please should rethink major elements of SB 202 and support a less ambitious intervention.

Best regards,

James Messina
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Erin Barr
DePauw University
barr37@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

They key to addressing issues of concern with Indiana's public institutions is not through big government interfering with our jobs - it is through cooperation. Those who support this bill do not seem to have set foot into a college or university since their own time as a student. I charge you to vote against this bill, get to know the faculty and staff who work hard to make Indiana a center for learning, and then be the judge of what, if any, reforms are needed. Indiana has some of the best universities in the country. I have worked for Franklin College and DePauw University. I attended Purdue University and my husband works for Indiana University. We both came from other states to work here because of this tradition of excellence. Do not force us and other faculty to seek work elsewhere through the passing of this law. We want to build our lives and encourage communities of learning here. We want to teach truth and innovation and honesty and respect and integrity. Vote NO and support Indiana faculty.

Best regards,

Erin Barr
DePauw University

February 2024

Kristin Leaman
Purdue University-West Lafayette
leamankb@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kristin Leaman
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Annalise Walkama
Purdue University-West Lafayette
awalkama@purdue.edu

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State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Annalise Walkama
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Josh Wells
Indiana University-South Bend
jowells@iusb.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 is make work government spending and overreach. A survey from the Indiana Commissioner of Higher Education in 2023, shows very high levels of satisfaction from students on our public campuses, about academic freedom and diversity of thought on our campuses. As such, SB 202 will require more government spending to regulate a problem that doesn't exist.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Josh Wells
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Laura Elenbaas
Purdue University-West Lafayette
lauraelenbaas@gmail.com

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State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Laura Elenbaas
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Rob Denton
Marian University-Indiana
robert.d.denton@gmail.com

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State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I am a tenure track professor in STEM at Marian University Indianapolis. I was born in east central Indiana and chose to return home and use my skills in research and teaching to improve higher education in Indiana. I don't speak for my employer, but I want to clearly communicate why SB 202 is a net negative for Indiana higher education.

We teach and mentor students from all parts of the state. They reflect the wide diversity of experiences that make Hoosiers who they are. Our university administration and board conduct comprehensive evaluations of faculty in order to make sure students receive the highest quality education.

I've seen colleagues in Florida, Texas, and Ohio leave their institutions due to political overreach that prevents them from doing their job: train critical thinkers for careers that contribute towards the greater good. Please don't let this brain drain come to Indiana. Trust our campus communities.

Best regards,

Rob Denton
Marian University-Indiana

February 2024

Sujith Puthiyaveetil
Purdue University-West Lafayette
spveetil@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

As a biochemical researcher, I will need to discuss evolution in my classroom while teaching the origin and spread of metabolic machines in cells. "Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution". I believe my job is to teach critical thinking and analytical skills to students. Any unquestioned or unexamined belief hinders growth of individuals and societies. We can do our job because we don't have to worry about reprisals for teaching different ideas in classrooms. As an immigrant scientist, I have always been proud of the quality of higher education in US. Barring free expression of ideas and opinions will seriously undermine Purdue's and Indiana's standing in the world.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sujith Puthiyaveetil
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Penelope Anderson
Indiana University-Bloomington
penelope_anderson@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 undermines the very foundation of our state and country, the search for truth and wisdom. In a passage beloved of America's founding fathers, John Milton wrote "Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties." This liberty supports business, science, and engineering as surely as it does the arts, humanities, and social sciences. SB202 shuts down free argument and in doing so will destroy Indiana's universities, which will no longer be able to attract and retain faculty and students.

SB 202 also duplicates oversight that already exists in the institutions equipped to undertake it, the universities themselves. It thus adds financial and administrative burdens and Boards of Trustees and administrations cannot bear, without any plan for funding this extra work.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Penelope Anderson
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Nicholas Roberts
Indiana University-Bloomington
gnicky@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

As others have noted, there are procedures and functional norms in place for faculty oversight. This bill would be a serious overstep.

I would also just like to note that conservative faculty and students do exist here, and their ability to conduct themselves and their research in a manner aligned with their own views is unimpeded. We saw a test of this with Ransmeier a few years ago, whose employment was not terminated simply for holding views that upset people.

I'm not even a faculty member and I am asking you to vote no. Thank you for reading.

Best regards,

Nicholas Roberts
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Antonio Bobet
Purdue University-West Lafayette
bobet@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Antonio Bobet
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Melanie Sarge
Indiana University-Bloomington
msarge@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 is unnecessary and will cause harm rather than benefits. It will limit all speech on campus and reduce academic freedom of researchers that are trying to help solve imminent issues our world will face in the coming years. It will damage our productivity, purpose and reputation such that students will turn to competing, out-of-state programs like Ohio State, University of Kentucky and Northwestern. Indiana's economy and residents will obviously suffer as a result.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Melanie Sarge
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Julia Chester
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jcheste@purdue.edu

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. I am a Professor at Purdue University and I speak for myself.

SB 202 is based on a faulty premise and will serve to increase suspicion and polarization in a learning environment that should be free from political interference. The bill is trying to fix a non-problem and would actually decrease intellectual diversity. It would reduce both conservative and liberal speech on campus and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars.

SB 202 will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Julia Chester, Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Sharon Christ
Purdue University-West Lafayette
slchrist@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sharon Christ
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Robert Horvath
Ball State University
horvathr@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Robert Horvath
Ball State University

February 2024

Cristina Santamaria Graff
Indiana University-Indianapolis
santamac@iu.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. I am a faculty member who is deeply concerned about this repressive and oppressive legislation.

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Thank you for your time.

C. Santamaria Graff

Best regards,

Cristina Santamaria Graff
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Paul White
Purdue University-West Lafayette
pwhite@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Paul White
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Yunmei Huang
Purdue University-West Lafayette
huan1643@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Yunmei Huang
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Suzanne LaVere
Purdue University-Fort Wayne
laveres@pfw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Suzanne LaVere
Purdue University-Fort Wayne

February 2024

Jessica Reuther
Ball State University
jcreuther@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jessica Reuther
Ball State University

February 2024

Dane Wallace
Ball State University
Daneabwallace@outlook.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Dane Wallace
Ball State University

February 2024

Priyanka Baloni
Purdue University-West Lafayette
pbaloni@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. Based on a campus survey administered every other year at Purdue, called the Student Experience in the Research University Setting (SERU), the response rate for this survey in my college in 2022 was 28.9% -- much higher than the 6% response rate for the Gallup poll that has been cited in connection with SB 202. Students reported their political orientation (liberal " conservative) and the extent to which they agreed that 1) " feel valued as an individual at Purdue" , 2) " belong at Purdue," and 3) " still enroll at Purdue" (i.e., given what they now know about Purdue as students). For ALL OF THESE ITEMS, students who reported being more conservative were MUCH MORE LIKELY than liberal students to report that they feel valued as an individual (conservative: 66.7% agree; liberal: 47.8% agree), that they belong (conservative: 75.6% agree; liberal: 57.8% agree), and that they" still enroll at Purdue (conservative: 75.7% agree; liberal: 68.4% agree). The College of Health and Human Sciences has disciplines that attract more liberal students than some other colleges on campus (e.g., College of Engineering). Even so, conservative students feel very valued and experience high belonging in the College of Health and Human Sciences. I fear the bill you are considering is founded on misguided and generalized conclusions from biased evidence; conservative students are not feeling unwelcome on Indiana"s higher education campuses.

This bill will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Priyanka Baloni
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Sydney Trask
Purdue University-West Lafayette
smtrask@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sydney Trask
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Sammie Morris
Purdue University-West Lafayette
booksteacats@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sammie Morris
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Cory Robinson
Indiana University-Indianapolis
cordrobi@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Cory Robinson
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Ian Lindsay
Purdue University-West Lafayette
aragats@mapaspects.org

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ian Lindsay
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Cheryl Cooky
Purdue University-West Lafayette
ccooky@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Cheryl Cooky
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Monica Tetzlaff
Indiana University-South Bend
Monicatmay@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Monica Tetzlaff
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Susan Hunter
Purdue University-West Lafayette
susanhunter@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I am a tenured associate professor of industrial engineering. I work on methods for solving mathematical optimization problems under uncertainty, a highly-valued and highly-paid skill in industry. And yet, I choose to be a professor because, with tenure, I have academic freedom. I can work on any research topic that interests me without worrying about whether it contributes to anyone else's bottom line. I can also take on big, important research projects that may move slowly, and for which industry would have no patience, because the existence of my job does not depend on demonstrating annual progress.

Remove tenure and the economic value of being a university professor declines dramatically. SB 202 will hurt Purdue's ability to recruit and retain the professors that make Purdue a top university in engineering. There is a sense among my STEM colleagues that "this does not apply to us." However, STEM fields are not immune to political pressure or whims (see: climate change, vaccines, development of the atomic bomb).

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202. The reputation and continued excellence of our state's universities depends on it.

Best regards,

Susan Hunter
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Thomas Siegmund
Purdue University-West Lafayette
siegmund@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Thomas Siegmund
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Gerry Lanosga
Indiana University-Bloomington
glanosga@indiana.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. This bill purports to promote a vaguely-defined "intellectual diversity" on our campuses, but by subjecting tenured faculty to five-year reviews, it will actually have the opposite effect on intellectual inquiry of all kinds. As a member of the American Association of University Professors, I endorse the organization's opposition to this bill, which expresses these points:

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Accordingly, I ask that you vote against SB 202. Please note I write this letter on my own behalf as a faculty member at Indiana University but do not claim to speak in any way for IU.

Gerry Lanosga, Associate Professor
The Media School
Indiana University

Best regards,

Gerry Lanosga
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Russ Skiba
Indiana University-Bloomington
skiba@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Russ Skiba
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Zoe Olesker
Ball State University
zoeolesker@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Zoe Olesker
Ball State University

February 2024

Kristine Holtvedt
Purdue University-West Lafayette
holtvedt@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kristine Holtvedt
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Chanya Ruby
Indiana University-Indianapolis
16.pim.ruby@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Chanya Ruby
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Jeffrey Greeley
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jgreeley@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I am a professor of engineering at Purdue University, and I am extremely concerned about the effect that SB 202 will have on the academic climate in Indiana's world-leading universities. SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202. It is no exaggeration to say that the future of higher education in Indiana depends on ensuring that this bill does not pass.

Best regards,

Jeffrey Greeley
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Marcia Holland
Indiana University-South Bend
mahollan@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Marcia Holland
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Liyan You
Purdue University-West Lafayette
you33@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Liyan You
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jennifer Guiliano
Indiana University-Indianapolis
guiliaje@hotmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jennifer Guiliano
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Brad (Yuan) Kim
Purdue University-West Lafayette
bradkim@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Brad (Yuan) Kim
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Sylk Sotto
Indiana University-Indianapolis
ssotto@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sylk Sotto
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Amber Kizer
Purdue University-West Lafayette
amber@amberkizer.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

This is a dangerous and disgusting bill. I am proud to work for Purdue and I work with faculty researchers on a daily basis--they are diverse in thinking, backgrounds, and passions. They should be supported. I do not want to work or live in a state that passes this kind of law. This is overreach of the worst kind. If you do not think this bill would have an impact on our bottom line financially, for attracting and keeping forward thinking business, and attracting the best talent you are sadly mistaken.

SB 202 is Giant Leap Backward into the dark ages. Please vote no.

Sincerely, Amber Kizer

Best regards,

Amber Kizer
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Florence Roisman
Indiana University-Indianapolis
froisman@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. I have been at IU for 28 years. I often have helped to recruit distinguished faculty to our law school. We will not be able to bring first-rate faculty to our law school if SB 202 becomes law.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and will afflict the work of all scholars, both conservative and liberal. It will make it almost impossible to teach law responsibly. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Florence Roisman
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Maria Brann
Indiana University-Indianapolis
mabrann@iupui.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Maria Brann
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Dr. Carrie Foote
Indiana University-Indianapolis
foote@iupui.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Dr. Carrie Foote
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Susan Sangha
Indiana University-Indianapolis
susangha@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote NO on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Susan Sangha
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Stephanie Stahl
Indiana University-Indianapolis
smstahl09@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Stephanie Stahl
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Tracy Vargo Gogola
Indiana University-Indianapolis
vargogogola@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Tracy Vargo Gogola
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Beverly Stoeltje
Indiana University-Bloomington
bstoeltje@gmail.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

All of Indiana benefits when our educational institutions maintain high scholarly standards of education. Our institutions are currently widely respected and permit Indiana students to obtain a solid education, allowing them to become productive citizens who hold jobs and assert leadership. The SB 202 will reduce the capacity of these institutions to provide a solid education for Indiana students and others who also attend. Faculty are specially trained for effective teaching and research, guiding students through this important period of their lives. This bill would eat into our educational institutions; they would no longer be respected, and our students will suffer. To be effective education must aim for high standards and implement those standards on every syllabus, in every classroom, and in all situations. Professors, not politicians, are qualified to make decisions about the education provided.

This bill would chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Beverly Stoeltje
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Gina Gibau
Indiana University-Indianapolis
gsanchez@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Gina Gibau
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Guoli Dai
Indiana University-Indianapolis
gdai@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Guoli Dai
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Robert Minto
Indiana University-Indianapolis
robmintohome@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. Academics, and similarly the United States, is based on the free exchange of ideas. SB202 will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students away from Indiana and towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers, all contrary to the past and continuing efforts of state government. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

Speaking solely on behalf of myself, a physical sciences faculty member and taxpayer of Indiana, I strenuously ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Robert Minto
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Shreya Bhandari
Purdue University-Northwest
sbnasw.book@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Shreya Bhandari
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

Brett Graham
Indiana University-Indianapolis
bgraham98@me.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Brett Graham
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Howard Zelaznik
Purdue University-West Lafayette
hnelaz@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Howard Zelaznik
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Todd Steiner
Indiana University-South Bend
tasteiner@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Todd Steiner
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Kathleen Eggleston
Indiana University-Indianapolis
keggleso@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kathleen Eggleston
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Lynn Dombrowski
Indiana University-Indianapolis
lsdombro@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Lynn Dombrowski
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Sherylyn Briller
Purdue University-West Lafayette
sbriller@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sherylyn Briller
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Mallory Bell
Purdue University-West Lafayette
bell315@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Mallory Bell
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Stephanie Lyons
Indiana University-Indianapolis
swelberg2002@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Stephanie Lyons
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Nichole Neuman
Indiana University-Indianapolis
nmneuman@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Nichole Neuman
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Qixin He
Purdue University-West Lafayette
heqixin@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Qixin He
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Andrew O'Brien
Indiana State University
aobrien85@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 is profound bureaucratic overreach and the epitome of big government. It is expensive, onerous, and antithetical to the principle of small government and local decision making.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana. This is particularly important in recruiting healthcare professionals to our state to ensure Hoosier are able to access care for their needs.

As a Hoosier, physician, and faculty member of Indiana University, this bill is profoundly troubling. I therefore implore that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Andrew O'Brien
Indiana State University

February 2024

Ramaswamy Subramanian
Purdue University-West Lafayette
hurryram@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ramaswamy Subramanian
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Tor Tolhurst
Purdue University-West Lafayette
ttolhurs@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Tor Tolhurst
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jackie McDermott
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jem@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: PLEASE vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jackie McDermott
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Sarah Parks
Indiana University-Indianapolis
stparks@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sarah Parks
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Hilary Nelson
Purdue University-West Lafayette
hmnelson@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Hilary Nelson
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Etta Ward
Indiana University-Indianapolis
emward@iupui.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Etta Ward
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Jeremy Anderson
DePauw University
jeremyanderson@depauw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jeremy Anderson
DePauw University

February 2024

Mary Dankoski
Indiana University-Indianapolis
mdankosk@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Mary Dankoski
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Matthew Wilson
Ball State University
mrwilson@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Matthew Wilson
Ball State University

February 2024

Katrenia Reed Hughes
Purdue University at Indianapolis
kreedhug@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Katrenia Reed Hughes
Purdue University at Indianapolis

February 2024

Annela Teemant
Indiana University-Indianapolis
annelat@aol.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Annela Teemant
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Adriana Elser
Ball State University
adrianaelser@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Adriana Elser
Ball State University

February 2024

Robin Turner
Butler University
rturne1@butler.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I've done my best to create an open learning environment for all students (conservative, liberal, far left and far right) throughout my teaching career at both public and private universities. SB 202 will undermine those goals, harm student learning, and damage Indiana's economy.

This bill would chill speech on campus and damage the scholarship of all scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Robin Turner
Butler University

February 2024

Dan Vice
Another institution in Indiana
viced@uindy.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

No matter what its intentions are, or what it claims to represent, SB 202 will reduce the academic freedom and chill speech for faculty of all political stripes, in all disciplines, including the humanities, business schools, the social sciences, the harder sciences, and engineering programs. It will prompt the best faculty to move to other states, where they can exercise more freedom; and the students and economic benefit of the universities will go with them.

Our universities currently have strong procedures in place already for oversight and discipline of faculty. And they do not have the resources for the expensive implementation, legal fees, and massive workload this bill would create. SB 202 would damage Indiana's students, institutions, and economy. No good can come from this.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Dan Vice
Associate Professor
University of Indianapolis

Best regards,

Dan Vice
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Sarah Huber
Purdue University-West Lafayette
huber47@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sarah Huber
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Rachel Krohn
Another institution in Indiana
krohn@rose-hulman.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I am Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Software Engineering at the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, and while I do not speak for my department or institution, I am appalled that Indiana is considering this bill.

SB 202 will undermine the teaching and work of all university faculty in Indiana. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rachel Krohn
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

John Walsh
Indiana University-Bloomington
jawalsh@indiana.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

John Walsh
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Michael Loui
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mloui@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

Indiana's universities have attracted world-class faculty members whose research has promoted economic development across the state. As an engineering professor, I left a tenured position at the University of Illinois to join the faculty at Purdue University. If tenure were eliminated under SB 202, I would not have come to Purdue. I am sure my engineering colleagues would similarly decline to take faculty positions in the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Michael Loui
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Andrew Friedman
Ball State University
andrewlanefriedman@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Andrew Friedman
Ball State University

February 2024

Diana Underwood-Gregg
Purdue University-Northwest
diana@pnw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 is a solution looking for a problem. The legislature mistakenly believes that university faculty are free to do whatever we want (not true) and that we can cut off free speech in our classes whenever we want (also not true).

If students feel that their instructors are restricting their speech there are several mechanisms in place for those issues to be addressed. It seems to me that the only people trying to restrict free speech is the Indiana State legislature. I am a life-long Hoosier. So are my children. They are going to be 21 years old in May and neither want to live in this state as an adult because they see nothing here for them. Passing SB 202 is just another way to drive more educated people out of the state. Maybe you should try working on that issue instead of this one.

ALL universities have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline and there has not been any groundswell of consumers asking for such a bill, the only logical for this bill is partisan politics.

It doesn't look like you've considered the cost of this bill. Let's say you are actually going to fund this initiative. Have you considered that maybe that money might be better spent on actual issues that matter to Hoosiers?

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers.

I'm astounded that the legislature has not considered what a similar bill has done to the ability of Florida universities to hire high quality faculty. The only reason an academic would want to be in Florida right now is because of the nice beaches. Fun Fact: Indiana isn't known for their nice beaches.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Diana Underwood-Gregg
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

Scott Pluta
Purdue University-West Lafayette
spluta@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Scott Pluta
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Ming QU
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mqu@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will significantly impact the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science, and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ming QU
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Henry Chang
Purdue University-West Lafayette
hcchang@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Henry Chang
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Lisa Phillips
Indiana State University
lphillips1968@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will drive people away from the state. Don't do it. All of our state's institutions of higher ed draw world class faculty. They'll leave. Employers will leave, it'll be a slow disaster. It's not that people want to be told how to think, it's that they want the option to think well, openly, without restriction. This bill is designed to restrict what's taught; it's contrary to the whole mission of higher ed.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Lisa Phillips
Indiana State University

February 2024

Marcia Baron
Indiana University-Bloomington
marciawbaron@gmail.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. Excellence in research requires that one pursue the truth, or aim to solve the problem that needs to be solved, and is impaired if one has to think about what someone, not in one's field, not even in academia, might think if they read it and evaluate it to see if it sufficiently represents a range of viewpoints. As things are, professors receive a great deal of helpful feedback on both our research and our teaching. Concerning the latter: we receive feedback from our students in the comments they provide us anonymously, as well as the comments they sometimes volunteer during office hours or by email. We discuss together how to handle a wide array of challenges, for example, how to help a student who seems hesitant to speak up in class feel more comfortable doing so. I strive to make all students feel able to speak up and I include in my syllabus a request that students let me know if anything about the classroom dynamics makes it difficult to do so. This is not just me; we all work on this. We, as professors, discuss together how to handle delicate situations, such as some students feeling uneasy if certain topics are raised that make them uncomfortable.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Marcia Baron
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Sarah Keogh
Ball State University
shkeogh@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sarah Keogh
Ball State University

February 2024

Richard Mattes
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mattes@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Richard Mattes
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Janine Duncan
Purdue University-West Lafayette
dunca162@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

As a citizen committed to the notion of university, I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Janine Duncan
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Kristine Nanagas
Indiana University-Indianapolis
knanagas@iuhealth.org

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. Although the intent of this bill is to make some people feel more represented, it is highly unlikely to have this effect. The actual outcome will be to make recruitment and retention even more challenging. Potential faculty will not feel that a job subject to political review is stable, as the dominance of political parties waxes and wanes over time. People from either side of the spectrum will fear saying something unpopular and their employment as unstable based on this. There are better ways to encourage respectful discourse. As a native Hoosier and long term faculty of Indiana University, I am intimately aware of these issues and how they affect our ability to hire and teach. I strongly advocate for people to enjoy free speech as a basic tenant of being a citizen of the United States and this effort will curtail that freedom.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kristine Nanagas
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Sharon Kessler
Purdue University-West Lafayette
kessles@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely,
Sharon Kessler
Associate Professor and Tippecanoe County Taxpayer

The opinions expressed in this letter are mine and do not aim to reflect the opinions of my department, college, or university.

Best regards,

Sharon Kessler
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Chloe Teall
Indiana University-Indianapolis
chloeteall@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Vote NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to urge you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will stifle both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars alike. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore implore that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Chloe Teall
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Barbara Duffy
Indiana University-Indianapolis
barbarastjohnduffy@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Barbara Duffy
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Devan Lindey
Purdue University-West Lafayette
devanlindey@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Devan Lindey
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Cody Coffman
Indiana University-Indianapolis
codcoffman96@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Cody Coffman
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Barbara Jones
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jones76@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Barbara Jones
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Megan Musgrave
Indiana University-Indianapolis
memusgra@iu.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Many thanks for supporting the best interests of Indiana with your opposition,

Megan L. Musgrave

Best regards,

Megan Musgrave
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Margaret Bauer
Indiana University-Indianapolis
margaretbauer240@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Margaret Bauer
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Stanley Spinola MD
Indiana University-Indianapolis
stanleyspinola@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I came to Indiana University in 1993 and have been fortunate to have secured 30M in NIH funding over the years. I could not in good conscience recruit new faculty to IU if they were going to be faced with an every 5 year post tenure review based on vague (political) behaviors. SB 202 represents big government overreach, will create a huge unfunded administrative burden, and discourage medical school faculty from addressing health care disparities, which unfortunately are real and need to be addressed. I strongly oppose this bill.

Best regards,

Stanley Spinola MD
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Carrie Sickmann
Indiana University-Indianapolis
csickman@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Carrie Sickmann
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Patrick Quinn
Indiana University-Bloomington
pdquinn@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Patrick Quinn
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Leah Shopkow
Indiana University-Bloomington
shopkowl@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, and given its clauses about diversity and hiring, it will convince our qualified diverse faculty the message that Indiana does not want them. Others will. Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition. These restrictions will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. Recovery from these developments is unlikely.

Furthermore, SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. No resources have been allocated to pay for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly and evenly across the teaching staff, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Finally, the bill would reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. Forbes Magazine, no liberal journal, has for that reason declared SB 202 to be a bad bill. It will be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Leah Shopkow
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Natalie Yates
Ball State University
nyates@bsu.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I moved to Indiana in 2017 for a tenure-track position, to teach in one of the highest ranking landscape architecture departments in the US. As an educator and designer working on environmental and social issues, I am very concerned with the impact of this legislation on the future of my university, my department, my students' education, and my career.

Measures such as these in the name of "viewpoint diversity" have already had disastrous impacts on the freedoms of inquiry and dissemination of ideas in North Carolina, Florida, and Texas. They impact not only humanities, but also STEM disciplines.

SB 202 will reduce academic freedom for researchers in design, engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Natalie Yates
Ball State University

February 2024

Jay VanderVeen
Indiana University-South Bend
antillesarch@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jay VanderVeen
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Benjamin Martinkus
Indiana University-Indianapolis
benmartinkus@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Benjamin Martinkus
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Rakesh Mehta
Indiana University-Indianapolis
ramehta@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will adversely affect both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and impair the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

Importantly, our world class medical school is already struggling to attract and retain excellent physicians and residents. Our medical school plays a critical role in training the next generation of Indiana physicians, and this bill will adversely affect health care in our state.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rakesh Mehta
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Marika Santagata
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mks@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I am a tenured full Professor in the College of Engineering at Purdue University.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers across all fields from engineering, to science, to the humanities and the social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

I am currently part of a team working on recruiting top researchers from around the country to join our faculty ranks with the goal of increasing the impact of our University across the globe and truly make the difference for humanity. Purdue has so much to offer: a great campus, fantastic resources, a supportive community, motivated students and colleagues and a vibrant city just an hour away. This bill undermines these efforts, and truly diminishes our ability to recruit the very best people. Other institutions in the state face similar challenges.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Marika Santagata
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Myriah Nisley
An institution NOT in Indiana
myriahmalloy@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Myriah Nisley
An institution NOT in Indiana

February 2024

Tasha Zephirin
Purdue University-West Lafayette
tkzeph@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Tasha Zephirin
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Chenell Loudermill
Purdue University-West Lafayette
cloudermill1@gmail.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. Despite the beliefs of the authors of this bill, SB 202 is unnecessary for many reasons. In my current role, I serve as a clinical professor and Director of Clinical Education. Additionally, I serve the College supporting its mission to maintain an inclusive environment for students, faculty, and staff. For example, our College administers a climate survey every other year at Purdue, called the Student Experience in the Research University Setting (SERU). To increase participation, we offer raffles for gift cards for students as an incentive to respond to the survey items. In 2022, the response rate for this survey in my college was 28.9% -- much higher than the 6% response rate for the Gallup poll that has been cited in connection with SB 202. Students reported their political orientation (liberal vs. conservative) and the extent to which they agreed that 1) they feel valued as an individual at Purdue, 2) they belong at Purdue, and 3) they'd still enroll at Purdue (i.e., given what they now know about Purdue as students). For ALL OF THESE ITEMS, students who reported being more conservative were MUCH MORE LIKELY than liberal students to report that they feel valued as an individual (conservative: 66.7% agree; liberal: 47.8% agree), that they belong (conservative: 75.6% agree; liberal: 57.8% agree), and that they'd still enroll at Purdue (conservative: 75.7% agree; liberal: 68.4% agree). The College of Health and Human Sciences has disciplines that attract more liberal students than some other colleges on campus (e.g., College of Engineering). Even so, conservative students feel very valued and experience high belonging in the College of Health and Human Sciences. I fear the bill you are considering is founded on misguided and generalized conclusions from biased evidence; conservative students are not feeling unwelcome on Indiana's higher education campuses. Should you want access to solid evidence of conservative comfort at Purdue, reports can be provided. Moreover, Purdue data analysts have these data for the full campus and can provide those data to you.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. More specifically, SB 202 will negatively impact our program's ability to meet accreditation standards and train clinicians to provide adequate care to clients and patients. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

Best regards, Chenell Loudermill, Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jennifer Richardson
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jennrich@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. I am not sure that this bill has truly been through through- it will in fact be used against the very people that are supposedly being protected by it- it will come back to hurt the conservatives and the liberals.

This bill, should it pass, will make it extremely difficult to retain and almost impossible to attract world-class faculty in our state. Given this, how will you continue to attract world class companies in the tech corridor?

The myth that faculty cannot be fired because they are protected by tenure is just that- a myth. Faculty can and are brought up on numerous issues related to their jobs.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jennifer Richardson, Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

M. Affan Badar
Indiana University-East
m.affan.badar@indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

M. Affan Badar
Indiana University-East

February 2024

Leah Van Antwerp
Indiana University-Indianapolis
lvanantwerp@outlook.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Leah Van Antwerp
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Heather Rosales
Another institution in Indiana
dukeshj@hotmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Heather Rosales
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Lisa Amsler
Indiana University-Bloomington
blomgrenlisa@gmail.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

Faculty submit an Annual Faculty Report containing documentation of all publications and presentations, syllabi, and an essay summarizing all teaching, research, and service activities. This material is accessible in the DMAI system to university administrators. I am proud of the faculty's work at IU. The committee could review this system and material and defer action on SB 202.

Otherwise, I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Lisa Amsler
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Leslie Csonka
Purdue University-West Lafayette
csonka@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Vote NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

SB 202 is a narrow-minded attack on the ability of professors in Indiana to teach students and to train them in research. It is vague, with no guidelines on what constitutes "intellectual diversity". It will make it possible for students who are disgruntled for any reason, relevant or irrelevant, to denounce their professors for not bring "politically correct" under the guise of this bill. Chairman Mao would have approved.

Should this bill become a law, it would curtail or eliminate academic freedom, which has been the hallmark of Universities for centuries. It will lead to mass exodus of world-class faculty from Indiana's Universities and it make it difficult to attract such faculty in the future.

Vote No on SB202.

Thank you, Professor Leslie N. Csonka, Ph. D.

Best regards,

Leslie Csonka
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Frances Christman
Purdue University-West Lafayette
frances@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Frances Christman
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Drew Casani
Another institution in Indiana
mejohanson@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. I live in a university town and volunteer to teach in a life long learning community organization associated with Purdue. I do not speak for Purdue University in any way.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Drew Casani
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Kate Graber
Indiana University-Bloomington
kate.graber@gmail.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

As both a professor and a Hoosier parent, I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I have spent much of my adult life studying Russia, and I fear that SB 202 accidentally promotes the same kind of repressive environment I see there. SB 202 will chill speech on campus, as it essentially requires self-censorship. It will afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers across the board, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will diminish our universities and immediately harm the state's reputation in higher education. Recruiting new faculty will become immediately harder, and many existing faculty will move to other states.

As a parent, I will not send my child to a college or university where faculty are told to teach not what they know and are experts in but whatever is supposed to reach an ill-defined and overly politicized "ideological diversity." I have loved Indiana, but I worry about him staying in public schools where future K-12 educators would be products of such a system. Our family will be part of the brain drain out of Indiana.

Those are my personal concerns, but SB 202 is also expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are neither equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202. Thank you.

Best regards,

Kate Graber
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Shirley Dyke
Purdue University-West Lafayette
sdyke@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the ability to attract high quality faculty to our institutions, and will rapidly lower the rankings of Indiana Universities. The quality of the technical knowledge within the state is certain to decrease, followed by similar effects on the economic viability of Indiana businesses that rely on this technical workforce.

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Shirley Dyke
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Jennifer Dobbs-Oates
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jendo@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I have a host of concerns about this bill, which is wide-ranging, over-reaching, and burdensome. In the interests of my time and yours, here is a short summary of my concerns:

• The provisions about "cultural and intellectual diversity" are inadequately defined and appear to be more interested in mandating certain political opinions rather than shaping a culture of true inclusiveness. They suggest that "all sides" of an issue must get equal attention, regardless of evidence or scholarly support. Not all ideas are equally valuable.

• The bill appears to take away trustee seats that are currently appointed by the alumni of an institution, granting that power instead to the House and Senate majority leaders. Disenfranchising alumni, whose understanding of and commitment to the institution is quite different from that of elected lawmakers, is hugely problematic. We don't need more politicized institutional leadership (for reference, see constant dysfunction in Michigan State's board, which is directly elected in a partisan process).

• The provisions that require closer board of trustees oversight of tenure are both entirely too sweeping and hugely burdensome. For example, the bill states that the board must reject tenure or promotion if it thinks the faculty member "is unlikely to foster a culture of free inquiry, free expression, and intellectual diversity." How can the board be expected to predict what is likely or unlikely? Surely tenure and promotion decisions must rest on a strong foundation of evidence, rather than predications of future behavior by people who have never even met the person in question. Moreover, the bill requires that the board itself conduct reviews of tenured professors every five years. Setting aside the question of whether the board has the necessary expertise for the task, they surely don't have the necessary time. How can a part-time board, made up of busy professionals often with high-powered professional roles of their own, be expected to carefully review the performance of 20% of Purdue's faculty each year?

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

I want to be clear in stating that my opinions are informed by my professional roles and experiences, but I speak for myself, not for the university in any official capacity.

Best regards,

Jennifer Dobbs-Oates
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Richard Nance
Indiana University-Bloomington
richard.nance@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

This is a policy that will force me to send my son -- born and raised in Indiana -- to a university outside the state. I would prefer not to do this, but I cannot in good conscience send him to an institution in which professors are worried that voicing what they have learned from their research puts them at risk of being sanctioned or fired. That is a recipe for fear and dishonesty, neither of which should the Indiana legislature wish to encourage.

It's also a recipe for a terrible education. Calls to "teach both sides" or "be more evenhanded" make very little sense when one "side" is informed (by peer reviewed research) and the other is invented (to score political points). That is not a controversy. It's a farce. A farce wearing the mask of reasonability.

But let's be clear: the "reasonability" of this bill is only a mask. The bill is not reasonable. It is a mistake, and in so many ways: educational, fiscal, social, and political. It will cause a greater brain drain than our state is already experiencing, as professors leave the state and informed Hoosiers send their children to be educated elsewhere -- and perhaps start lucrative businesses in their new homes, never to return.

No one wants that.

That is what will happen.

Please do the right thing. The taxpayers of Indiana are watching. Vote NO on SB 202.

Best regards,

Richard Nance
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Sarah Engel
Indiana University-Bloomington
sarah.j.engel@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and harm the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state by harming our universities' reputation and world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Sarah Engel
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Jonathan Bauchet
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jbauchet@nyu.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

In fact, data from Purdue's own SERU survey, which is much more representative of a broad segment of Purdue undergraduate students than the survey mentioned by supporters of the bill, clearly indicates that conservative students at Purdue do NOT have any issue with freedom of speech or expression. Students reported their political orientation (liberal " conservative) and the extent to which they agreed that 1) " feel valued as an individual at Purdue" , 2) " belong at Purdue," and 3) " still enroll at Purdue" (i.e., given what they now know about Purdue as students). In the College of Health and Human Sciences, which has disciplines that attract more liberal students than other colleges (e.g. College of Engineering), for ALL OF THESE ITEMS students who reported being more conservative were MUCH MORE LIKELY than liberal students to report that they feel valued as an individual (conservative: 66.7% agree; liberal: 47.8% agree), that they belong (conservative: 75.6% agree; liberal: 57.8% agree), and that they" still enroll at Purdue (conservative: 75.7% agree; liberal: 68.4% agree).

SB 202 creates many new problems. The problem is pretends to solve simply does not exist. SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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Best regards,

Jonathan Bauchet, Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Brian Metzger
Purdue University-West Lafayette
bpmetzger2@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Brian Metzger
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Ming-Yu Ngai
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mngai@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Ming-Yu Ngai
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Ellen Gruenbaum
Purdue University-West Lafayette
gruenbaum@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202. Although I am now Professor Emerita, I am an active scholar and very much impacted by whatever limitations and constraints affect ALL faculty, even those of us doing research and professional work as retirees affiliated with Purdue.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202. Thank you.

Best regards,

Ellen Gruenbaum
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Temitope Adeoye Olenloa
Purdue University-West Lafayette
adeoye@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

My name is Temi and I live in Lafayette, IN. I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Temitope Adeoye Olenloa
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Dennis Korchek
Purdue University-Northwest
dkarchitect1@comcast.net

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Dennis Korchek
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

Dada Docot
Purdue University-West Lafayette
dadadocot@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

In teaching anthropology and cornerstone classes, I teach a diverse range of texts which center the perspectives and experience of authors from marginalized communities in the US and beyond. In the classroom, students speak about the transformative effects of their exposure to a diverse reading list on their cultural competence and sense of responsibility as young American citizens. The state of Indiana and its universities need to nourish a safe and welcoming environment where faculty, researchers, and staff can offer transformative learning to future scientists and thinkers.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Dada Docot
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Morgan Furze
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mfurze@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Morgan Furze
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

elena e benedicto
Purdue University-West Lafayette
ebenedi@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

elena e benedicto
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Daniel Udrea
Indiana University-Indianapolis
danieludrea.md@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Concern from a Hoosier Voter: Please Oppose SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I'm writing to you today as a concerned resident of our great state. I know we both want what's best for Indiana when it comes to supporting our universities and the students they serve. That's why I have such strong reservations about SB 202.

This bill, frankly, has me worried. I fear overregulation threatens the world-class reputation of our universities. The extra red tape might push away star talent and groundbreaking research that drives innovation here. And the bureaucracy seems like an expensive distraction when administrators are already stretched thin.

I value differing viewpoints in academia. That's how students grow. SB 202 claims to support free speech, but seems more likely to stifle debate out of fear of punishment. That hardly seems American to me.

You and I might disagree on politics, but I bet we share Hoosier pride in our universities. These schools open doors for our kids and grandkids while also attracting jobs and opportunity to our communities. SB 202 puts all of that at risk to make a political statement. I hope you'll avoid risky government overreach that could backfire on Indiana's future.

Instead, let's come together to support policies that strengthen our universities while giving students the resources they need to reach their potential. Our state's success depends on it. I'm happy to discuss this further over a cup of coffee - my treat. Just say the word.

Thanks for listening to one Hoosier's take. I hope I can count on your vote against SB 202.

Best regards,

Daniel Udrea
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

David Goldberg
Purdue University-West Lafayette
goldberg@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

David Goldberg
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

David Crandall
Indiana University-Bloomington
david.crandall@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

David Crandall
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Jackie Covault
Purdue University-Northwest
jcovault@pnw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jackie Covault
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

Greg Hull
Indiana University-Indianapolis
gghull@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote "No" on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to urgently request your assistance in preventing approval of SB 202, because its approval will have a devastating effect on our state and every academic institution, causing a negative impact on innovation and growth across the entire state.

This legislation not only jeopardizes the academic freedom of both conservative and liberal scholars but also poses a severe threat to every field of study within our universities, spanning engineering, science, business, humanities, and social sciences.

The negative repercussions of SB 202 extend beyond the stifling of intellectual discourse. By hindering academic freedom, this bill will inevitably hamper every universities' ability to attract and retain top-tier talent across every discipline. The ensuing exodus of academic expertise will not only diminish the state's economic prowess but also tarnish its reputation on the national and global stage.

It is crucial to recognize that SB 202 is not just detrimental to academic autonomy. The proposed regulations will strain our universities and undermine the very institutions the bill purports to protect.

By voting "No" to SB 202, you can help safeguard the reputation and functionality of our state's universities, preventing the unnecessary loss of exceptional faculty and students to competing states. Please consider the long-term consequences of this bill by voting against SB 202 to preserve the academic vibrancy and economic growth of our great state.

Thank you.

Best regards,

Greg Hull
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Jillian Snyder
University of Notre Dame
jsnyder5@nd.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Jillian Snyder
University of Notre Dame

February 2024

Bonnie VanDeventer
Indiana University-Bloomington
bjmacphe@indiana.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Bonnie VanDeventer
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Christopher Carrier
Another institution in Indiana
carrierc@uindy.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 is an assault on the primary objective of higher education institutions—the pursuit of knowledge. It will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the pursuit of knowledge, the success of Hoosier students, and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Christopher Carrier
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Frank Emmert
Indiana University-Indianapolis
femmert@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Frank Emmert
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Kendall Johnson
Ball State University
kdjohnson11@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kendall Johnson
Ball State University

February 2024

Rachel Hinrichs
Indiana University-Indianapolis
rjhinrichs6@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rachel Hinrichs
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Marcy Wilhelm-South
Purdue University-West Lafayette
marcy.wilhelm@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill speech of all types on campus, and negatively affect the work of all scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states. The "brain drain" people talk about when they talk about Indiana will be an even bigger problem.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have procedures for faculty oversight and discipline.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations of our world-class universities. Damaging the reputations of these institutions leads to faculty and students seeking their education elsewhere, ending in both the aforementioned "brain drain" as well as those tuition dollars draining out as well.

As a Fort Wayne native, educated in the public K-12 school system; an alumna of Butler University in Indianapolis; having earned my masters through Indiana University; and now a staff member at the prestigious Purdue University, I love my home state of Indiana. To allow it and its residents to thrive both in the educational and academic spheres and beyond, I ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Marcy Wilhelm-South
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Paula Bice
Indiana University-Indianapolis
PBICE@IU.EDU

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

This letter represents my express views, not the views of Indiana University.

Paula J. Bice, Ph.D.
Faculty
Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

Best regards,

Paula Bice
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Amy Bosworth
Ball State University
akbosworth@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Amy Bosworth
Ball State University

February 2024

Carol Post
Purdue University-West Lafayette
cbp@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Carol Post
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Rachel Goldberg
DePauw University
rachelgoldberg@depauw.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rachel Goldberg
DePauw University

February 2024

Jacqueline Linnes
Purdue University-West Lafayette
jlinnes@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Respectfully,
Jacqueline

Best regards,

Jacqueline Linnes
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Kizmin Jones
Indiana University-East
kizmin622@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Kizmin Jones
Indiana University-East

February 2024

Taylor Borgelt
Purdue University-West Lafayette
tborgelt1@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Taylor Borgelt
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Allison Ford
Indiana University-Indianapolis
anovotnyford@yahoo.com

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I am a graduate student and teacher at IU Indianapolis and am speaking for myself, not the university.

In addition to everything written below I am a life long Hoosier, product of public education, and parent of three school age children. When they were babies I learned very early on that my role as their first teacher was not just to protect them but to prepare them for the world they would face. Ignorance is not what our rapidly changing world needs. It leads to weak, impulsive decisions. If Indiana wants to be a leader in industry, technology, agriculture, medicine and biotech we need to be educating creative thinkers and leaders who understand the scope and complexity of the world instead of stifling education based on the thoughts of people who can't think beyond their own fears and bias. We can do better.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Allison Ford, Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Teresa Sosa
Indiana University-Indianapolis
tmsosa2@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Teresa Sosa
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Daniel Winchester
Purdue University-West Lafayette
dwinches@purdue.edu

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely,
Daniel Winchester
Associate Professor of Sociology
Purdue University

Best regards,

Daniel Winchester
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Thomas Davis
Indiana University-Indianapolis
iock100@iupui.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Thomas Davis
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Robert Koester
Ball State University
rkoester@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Robert Koester
Ball State University

February 2024

Joan Wyand
Indiana University-Indianapolis
joan.m.wyand@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

As a graduate student and teaching fellow, I can see how this would hurt both students and teachers, and negatively impact the learning process.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Joan Wyand
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Madelyn Gearld
Purdue University-West Lafayette
mgearld@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Madelyn Gearld, Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Tara Saunders
Purdue University-West Lafayette
thsaunde@purdue.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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SB 202 is an inappropriate attempt to impose external (and potentially politicized) regulation on the workings of institutions that should be guided by peer-reviewed evidence and disciplinary expertise.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Tara Saunders, Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Emile Dixon
Ball State University
eedixon@bsu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Emile Dixon
Ball State University

February 2024

Lawrence Ruich
Indiana University-Indianapolis
ljruich@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Lawrence Ruich
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Gabriel Tait
Indiana University-East
taitphoto@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Gabriel Tait
Indiana University-East

February 2024

Gae Stoops
Another institution in Indiana
glstoops@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Sincerely,
Gae Stoops

Best regards,

Gae Stoops
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Judy L Faux
Another institution in Indiana
judyqueryfaux@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Judy L Faux
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Youngbok Hong
Indiana University-Indianapolis
youhong@iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Youngbok Hong
Indiana University-Indianapolis

February 2024

Linda Martin
Purdue University-West Lafayette
lindamedicamarti@hotmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Linda Martin
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Hilary Lustick
An institution NOT in Indiana
hilustick@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Hilary Lustick
An institution NOT in Indiana

February 2024

Rona Robinson-Hill
Ball State University
ronahill87@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Rona Robinson-Hill
Ball State University

February 2024

Massimo Scalabrini
Indiana University-Bloomington
scalabrinipark@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Massimo Scalabrini
Indiana University-Bloomington

February 2024

Katey Watson
Purdue University-West Lafayette
watsonkatey@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Katey Watson
Purdue University-West Lafayette

February 2024

Amber Gonzales
Indiana University-South Bend
Ahardcas@alumni.iu.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Amber Gonzales
Indiana University-South Bend

February 2024

Cameron Powden
Indiana University-East
powdenc@uindy.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

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I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Cameron Powden
Indiana University-East

February 2024

Evan Dutmer
Another institution in Indiana
erwdutmer@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
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I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

SB 202 is expensive and unnecessarily bureaucratic: our universities already have robust procedures for faculty oversight and discipline. In a non-budget year, this bill offers no plan or resources for the burdensome and costly new regulations it proposes, nor will the regulations be possible to implement fairly, opening up universities to vastly-increased legal liability. Boards of Trustees and administrations are not equipped nor resourced for the massive increase in workload that this bill would necessitate.

Passing the bill will damage the reputations and functioning of our world-class universities, push our exceptional faculty and students towards our competition, and reduce the economic return-on-investment to taxpaying Hoosiers. SB 202's political overreach would be detrimental to the success of Hoosier students and the worldwide reputation of the state of Indiana.

I therefore ask that you oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Evan Dutmer
Another institution in Indiana

February 2024

Abigail Dempsey
Purdue University-Northwest
ademps94@gmail.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please vote no on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

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February 2024

Vickie Tyner
Purdue University-Northwest
vtyner918@gmail.com

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Vickie Tyner
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

Jeff Tyner
Purdue University-Northwest
jstyner918@gmail.com

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Jeff Tyner
Purdue University-Northwest

February 2024

Ann Creary
An institution NOT in Indiana
amcreary@yahoo.com

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

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Best regards,

Ann Creary
An institution NOT in Indiana

February 2024

Eden Perry
Indiana State University
kperry35@sycamores.indstate.edu

Representative Robert Behning
State of Indiana House of Representatives

RE: Please Please Please, Vote NO on SB 202

Dear Rep. Behning,

I write to ask you to vote NO on SB 202.

I am a student on Indiana State University's campus. I, Eden Perry, speak on my own, behalf. SB 202 will chill both conservative and liberal speech on campus, and afflict the work of both conservative and liberal scholars. It will reduce academic freedom for researchers in engineering, science, and business schools, as well as humanities and social sciences, even as it claims to do the opposite. This restriction will both reduce the impact our universities have on the economic engine of our state, its reputation, and its world-class faculty, who will move to other states.

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I therefore request that you please oppose SB 202.

Best regards,

Eden Perry
Indiana State University