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COSSA Statement on the President's FY 2027 Budget Request

Washington, D.C. — The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) issued the following statement in response to the April 3 release of the President's fiscal year (FY) 2027 budget request:

The Trump Administration's budget request for FY 2027 represents a surrender of U.S. leadership in global research and development. The President's proposal would significantly cut funding for U.S. science agencies—including a 55% cut to the National Science Foundation (NSF) and a 13% cut to the National Institutes of Health (NIH)—at a time when other countries are doubling down on their investments in scientific discovery.

The budget assumes future American prosperity can be achieved primarily through investment in emerging technologies and commercialization. However, federal science agencies like NSF, NIH, and many others have kept American innovation at the fore through decades-long, sustained support for fundamental, basic research. "The nature of basic science is to explore fundamental questions that may not have an immediate application, but that contribute to the scaffolding of knowledge that builds and progresses over time," said Wendy Naus, COSSA Executive Director. "The Administration's budget, if appropriated, would send that scaffolding crashing down."

COSSA is especially concerned that the budget seeks to eliminate NSF's Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE), and troubled by reports that the foundation intends to shutter the directorate this year, without explanation or advance notice, and in defiance of Congressional [report language](#) included in the final FY 2026 NSF appropriations bill.

COSSA calls on Congress to reject the President's FY 2027 budget request for federal science agencies. We further urge Congress to exercise its oversight authority to stop NSF leadership from eliminating the SBE Directorate without explanation, notice, or stakeholder engagement.

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The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is a nonprofit organization working to promote sustainable federal funding for social and behavioral science research and federal policies that positively impact the conduct of research. COSSA serves as a united voice for a broad, diverse network of organizations, institutions, communities, and stakeholders who care about a successful and vibrant social science research enterprise. The COSSA membership includes professional and disciplinary associations, scientific societies, research centers and institutes, and U.S. colleges and universities. Visit us at www.cofsa.org.