



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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COSSA Statement on the Dismissal of Members of the National Science Board

Washington, D.C. — The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) issued the following statement in response to the dismissal of members of the National Science Board (NSB):

COSSA is troubled by the recent dismissal of all members of the National Science Board by the Trump Administration. The National Science Board was established in statute in the [National Science Foundation Act of 1950](#) to serve as the policymaking and oversight body of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and as an independent advisor to the President and Congress on federal science policy. The abrupt dismissal of the Board's 24 members is the latest in a series of actions taken to fundamentally alter the way NSF sets priorities and supports the scientific community.

The move likely violates federal statute, which states that Board members are appointed for six-year terms with one-third renewed every two years; some current Board members had terms that were not set to expire until 2030. The term lengths and processes by which members are chosen were intentionally designed to span Presidential Administrations and nurture a Board that is balanced in expertise, representative of the U.S. scientific enterprise, and free from partisanship.

COSSA thanks members of the National Science Board for their service to the American people and calls on Congress to exercise its oversight authority to examine this latest action.

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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.coffa.org.