

## **Indiana University - Bloomington Graduate & Professional Student Government**

## A RESOLUTION TO DENOUNCE THE REVOCATION OF STUDENT VISAS AND UNLAWFUL DETENTION OF STUDENTS ENGAGING IN LEGAL PROTEST

Whereas, freedom of expression and peaceful assembly are constitutionally protected rights in the United States<sup>4</sup>, and are essential to the mission of higher education; and

Whereas, students at Indiana University and other institutions across the country have faced threats of visa revocation, academic discipline, or unlawful detention in retaliation for engaging in lawful political protest<sup>5</sup>; and

Whereas, targeting students particularly international, immigrant, or marginalized students for their political speech constitutes a violation of both domestic and international human rights standards; and

Whereas, such actions undermine academic freedom, student safety, and democratic participation, and create a chilling effect that discourages civic engagement; and

Whereas, university leadership bears an ethical and institutional responsibility to safeguard students from retaliation, protect civil liberties, and defend the integrity of the academic environment;

Therefore, be it resolved by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly that it unequivocally denounces the revocation of student visas, the criminalization of lawful political protest, and the unlawful detention of students engaging in constitutionally protected expression;

Be it further resolved, that any public statement issued by university administration in response to such events shall only be deemed an adequate denouncement if it meets the following criteria:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> U.S. Const. amend. I.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Panuk, Humeyra. "Rubio Says US May Have Revoked More than 300 Visas | Reuters." Reuters, March 27, 2025. https://www.reuters.com/world/us/rubio-says-us-may-have-revoked-more-than-300-visas-2025-03-27/. Wong, Edward. "Rubio Orders U.S. Diplomats to Scour Student Visa Applicants' Social Media." The New York Times, April 1, 2025. https://www.nytimes.com/2025/04/01/us/politics/student-visas-social-media.html.

- Explicitly affirms students' right to engage in peaceful political protest, including protest that is critical of government policy or university administration;
- Directly names and condemns the revocation of visas and unlawful detention as unacceptable responses to lawful protest;
- Commits to non-cooperation with external agencies or law enforcement bodies that target students for political activity protected by the First Amendment;
- Is issued promptly and publicly, not only in private communication or internal correspondence.

Be it further resolved, that the GPSG calls upon university leadership to issue such a statement immediately in any case where students' civil liberties are under threat due to political expression.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Assembly on this 4th day of April , 2025.

Anjali Gottipaty	04/04/2025
GPSG President	Date