

February 1, 2010

The Honorable Richard G. Lugar
United States Senate
306 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

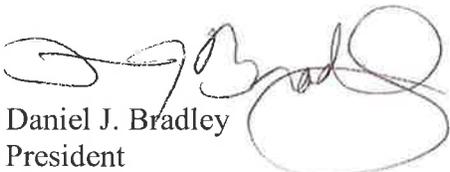
As the United States Senate begins the Fiscal Year 2011 appropriations process, Indiana State University (ISU) respectfully submits for your consideration the Rural Health Professions Educational Enhancement Program.

Recently, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration reported that Indiana has 44 federally designated primary care shortage areas; 25 of those are in rural counties, defined as less than 50,000 population. Eight of those rural counties are in the local West Central Indiana Area Health Education Center area where ISU is located.

The newly formed College of Nursing, Health and Human Services and the university are strongly committed to exploring and implementing new medical, allied health and human services programs that are in critical shortage. Several of the new programs being considered include: Physicians Assistant Studies, Physical Therapy, Podiatry, Pharmacy, Social Work (MSW) and Health Care Administration. The establishment of these critically-needed rural health programs will allow Indiana State University to address local, state and national demands. More importantly, the graduates of these programs will improve the access and therefore the health and wellness of our rural community.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I greatly appreciate your support of Indiana State University and I look forward to working with you and your dedicated staff again this year. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,


Daniel J. Bradley
President