

## **IU political groups uniting to fight office serving gays, lesbians**

Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Student Democrats and Republicans at Indiana University have united against a proposed Office of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Student Support Services.

The office, due to open this fall with a \$50,000 budget, is opposed by some state lawmakers.

"I'm not sitting here condemning a person's right to be gay," said junior Randy DeCleene, president of College Democrats. "I'm just saying the \$50,000 could be used to benefit the students."

Sophomore Jim Holden, chairman of College Republicans, said his organization will work with DeCleene's to lobby lawmakers.

The office would "just further exclude (homosexuals) from the mainstream campus," DeCleene said. The money would be better spent on other projects, such as increasing parking spaces and bike racks.

Dean of Students Richard McKaig said a search committee is selecting a coordinator for the office, which will offer counseling and referral services.