

The Honorable Betsy DeVos
Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20202

Re: Docket ID ED-2017-OS-0074-0001

Dear Secretary DeVos:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. This vital law affects all areas of education, including: recruitment, admissions and housing; pregnant and parenting students; science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); sexual harassment and assault; and athletics. It requires recipients of federal education funding to evaluate their current policies and practices, adopt and publish a policy against sex discrimination, and implement grievance procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee discrimination complaints.

I join with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in urging the Department of Education to protect Title IX, preserve all of its current regulations and guidance, and fully enforce the law.

Unfortunately, many students still do not have access to an equitable education free from sex discrimination. AAUW research found that 56 percent of girls and 40 percent of boys in grades 7-12 face sexual harassment. Of that number, 87 percent said it had a negative effect on them. In addition, girls have 1.2 million fewer chances to play sports in high school than boys. Less than two-thirds of African American and Hispanic girls play sports, while more than three-quarters of Caucasian girls do. Pregnant and parenting students are often steered toward separate, less rigorous schools. Just 12 percent of engineers are women, and the number of women in computing has fallen from 35 percent in 1990 to just 26 percent today.

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Education has a long history of ensuring technical assistance and fair enforcement of federal civil rights laws, including Title IX. For decades, students and advocates have called on OCR to enforce Title IX, and its long-standing regulations and guidance.

As Secretary of Education, you have the power to address this critical civil rights issue and help make schools safer and more equitable for all students. I join with AAUW in urging the Department of Education to keep in place current Title IX guidance and regulations and fully enforce the law.

Thank you,

Judith Acarregui
AK 99615

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U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20202

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Thank you,

Deirdre Aldridge-Pope
3305 Dorbrandt St
Anchorage, AK 99503

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Thank you,

Janet Ames
PO Box 2482
Homer, AK 99603

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Judith Andree
AK 99801

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Diana Barney
8461 Crystal St
Anchorage, AK 99502

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Genevieve Beloin
21344 Songbird Dr
Chugiak, AK 99567

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Joyce Rae Bennett
1276 Gold Rush Drive
Fairbanks, AK 99709

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John Dodge
PO Box 2532
Homer, AK 99603

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59835 Tern Court
Homer, AK 99603

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Lyn Franks
190 Grand Larry St Apt A06
Anchorage, AK 99504

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Michael Glasheen
PO Box 8663
Kodiak, AK 99615

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Laura Hilger
3176 Doil Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99507

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Stephanie Horine
AK 99516

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Janis Johnson
AK 99686

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Brenda Martin
3816 Tanada Rd
North Pole, AK 99705

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500 Mary Cir
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Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. This vital law affects all areas of education, including: recruitment, admissions and housing; pregnant and parenting students; science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); sexual harassment and assault; and athletics. It requires recipients of federal education funding to evaluate their current policies and practices, adopt and publish a policy against sex discrimination, and implement grievance procedures providing for prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee discrimination complaints.

I join with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in urging the Department of Education to protect Title IX, preserve all of its current regulations and guidance, and fully enforce the law.

Unfortunately, many students still do not have access to an equitable education free from sex discrimination. AAUW research found that 56 percent of girls and 40 percent of boys in grades 7-12 face sexual harassment. Of that number, 87 percent said it had a negative effect on them. In addition, girls have 1.2 million fewer chances to play sports in high school than boys. Less than two-thirds of African American and Hispanic girls play sports, while more than three-quarters of Caucasian girls do. Pregnant and parenting students are often steered toward separate, less rigorous schools. Just 12 percent of engineers are women, and the number of women in computing has fallen from 35 percent in 1990 to just 26 percent today.

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As Secretary of Education, you have the power to address this critical civil rights issue and help make schools safer and more equitable for all students. I join with AAUW in urging the Department of Education to keep in place current Title IX guidance and regulations and fully enforce the law.

Thank you,

Ken Maurice
1308 Northbluff Dr
Anchorage, AK 99501

The Honorable Betsy DeVos
Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20202

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Thank you,

Gael Murakami
4516 Wood River Dr
Fairbanks, AK 99709

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Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20202

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Sandra O'Connor
1593 Ivans Aly
Fairbanks, AK 99709

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Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20202

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Allison Petroccia
19541 N Mitkof Loop
Eagle River, AK 99577

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Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20202

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Thank you,

Patricia Rivera
AK 99775

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Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20202

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Thank you,

Lillian Ruedrich
PO Box 235
Gustavus, AK 99826

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Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20202

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Thank you,

Gretchen Saupe
PO Box 1194
Kodiak, AK 99615

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U.S. Department of Education
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Carol Schlentner
Minchumina PO Box 40
Lake Minchumina, AK 99757

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Laura Slater
PO Box 2623
Kodiak, AK 99615

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John S. Sonin
329 5th St #1
Juneau, AK 99801

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U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20202

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Trish Stark
P.O. Box 82525
Fairbanks, Ak 99708, AK 99708

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Kayt Sunwood
5601 Old Ridge Trail
Fairbanks, AK 99709

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Terry Tirrell
1053 Pika Rd
Fairbanks, AK 99709

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Susan Vogt
269 Bias Dr
Fairbanks, AK 99712

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Laura Walsh
4427 Condor Ct, #306
Fairbanks, AK 99709

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Josiah Winter
567 Aurora Ct
Anchorage, AK 99503

