

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,

Neville Berle
155 Main St apt 207
Montpelier, VT 5602

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

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Alice Berliner
172 Church St
Norwich, VT 5055

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ALan Citron
PO Box 1785
Manchester Center, VT 5255

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Janice Day
1631 Hidden Valley Rd
Shaftsbury, VT 5262

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Phyllis Erwin
1012 Broad Brook Rd
Guilford, VT 5301

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Mary Feidner
26 College Rd
North Bennington, VT 5257

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Chelsea Frisbee
88 West Street
Winooski, VT 5404

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J.N. Garrett
43 Deer Meadow Dr.
Middlebury, VT 5753

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Sarah Gillen
174 Elm St
Montpelier, VT 5602

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Laticia Gordon
130 Union Street
Bennington, VT 5201

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Margaret Howland
311 Chester Knoll Dr
Bennington, VT 5201

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Gudrun Hutchins
421 Barber Pond Rd
Pownal, VT 5261

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Jennifer Kern
352 Elm St
Bennington, VT 5201

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Suzanne Kirkpatrick
6 Garbrooke Dr
Bennington, VT 5201

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Alan Kittelson
6 Park Street
Vergennes, VT 5491

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Jennie Kristel
139 killarney drive
Burlington, VT 5408

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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.

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,

Crystal L'Hote
400 S Winooski Ave
Burlington, VT 5401

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

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Sheila Mann
192 Grove Rd
Shaftsbury, VT 5262

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Thank you,

Norma McShane
329 Elm Street 329 Elm Street
Bennington, VT 5201

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Jean Miller
PO Box 349
Arlington, VT 5250

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Donald Morrison
4502 Brownsville Hartland Rd
West Windsor, VT 5089

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Diane Patnode
11 Sugartree Ln Unit G7
Essex Junction, VT 5452

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Carlene Raper
VT 5401

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Kateq ruland
3589 Morse Hill Rd
Dorset, VT 5251

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Joel Trupin
143 School St.
Marshfield, VT 5658

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Katherine Werner
354 Hastings Rd
Waitsfield, VT 5673

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679 us rte5 s
Windsor, VT 5089

