

**From:** Maher-Gurniak, Daniel  
**Sent:** Fri, 11 Jun 2021 16:28:38 -0400  
**To:** T9PublicHearing  
**Cc:** sga@ramapo.edu  
**Subject:** Written Comment from the Ramapo College Student Government Association:  
Title IX Public Hearing

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To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Daniel Maher-Gurniak. I am a rising senior at Ramapo College of New Jersey, and I am the Secretary of Governmental Affairs for the Ramapo College Student Government Association (SGA).

Earlier this week, specifically on Tuesday, June 8th, 2021, I was allowed the privilege and honor to speak to you (the US Department of Education) at your public hearing on Title IX regulations and potential revisions. To follow up on my verbal comments, I compose this email to submit a written statement on behalf of the Ramapo College SGA.

Several proposals were included in my verbal remarks and now in my written remarks; some such suggestions were required by the previous regulations of the past presidential administration(s), and other recommendations are newly mentioned or otherwise newly supported.

Policies supported by the Ramapo College SGA include:

- Educational environments must be free from sexual violence and misconduct.
- All parties of a sexual assault or misconduct accusation must have access to a fair and impartial hearing; the process should equally protect accused students and their accusers.
- Title IX must protect students from all unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that denies them equal access to education. This is true regardless of where the conduct occurred. Restricting Title IX to the physical boundaries of a campus harms students who are increasingly learning virtually and socializing online.
- Students on both sides of a sexual assault or misconduct accusation may have an advisor present when speaking to a judicial committee and/or at the filing of their complaint.
- Supportive measures in the form of free counseling should be available for anyone who is a victim regardless of complaint status.

It is important to note that the Ramapo College SGA is a non-partisan organization of Ramapo College of New Jersey and, therefore, the comments are merely about policy, not politics. The Ramapo College SGA once again appreciates the opportunity to share ideas, suggestions, and feedback regarding such critical and sensitive topics in higher education institutions today.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,  
Daniel Maher-Gurniak  
Secretary of Governmental Affairs  
Student Government Association  
Ramapo College of New Jersey  
Class of 2022