

From: Executive Director
Sent: Thu, 10 Jun 2021 17:32:55 -0400
To: T9PublicHearing
Subject: Written Comment: Title IX Public Hearing

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Dear Secretary Cardona and Ms. Goldberg:

I am pleased to submit these comments on behalf of the Indiana Association of Christian Schools (IACS) regarding the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights "Announcement of Public Hearing; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972." The IACS is a state organization, comprised of 24 K-12 member schools in the great State of Indiana, serving over 3400 students, teachers, school staff, and school administrators. In addition to those 3400 teachers, students, and staff, there is an even greater number of parents, grandparents, and extended families who stand behind them in support of Christian education.

I have just learned that the Department of Education has announced its intent to redefine the word "sex" to mean sexual orientation and gender identity in accordance with President Biden's executive orders calling for federal agencies to apply the devastating Supreme Court ruling in *Bostock v. Clayton County* to all federal regulations. If this happens, it will have a devastating impact on private Christian Schools in Indiana and would severely limit our religious freedom.

The United States Constitution recognizes the fundamental nature of freedom of religion as the ability to live according to the dictates of one's conscience informed by reason and revelation from God. Our government has always

protected this foundational right and has seen it as the guiding principle from which all other rights flow.

On behalf of these concerned citizens, **I am writing to urge the department to reject the radical new definition of sex** that would gravely threaten the ability of religious institutions and families to practice their faith without government interference.

Respectfully,

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