

From: Sharon Regier
Sent: Tue, 8 Jun 2021 15:50:11 -0500
To: T9PublicHearing
Subject: Written Comment: Title IX Public Hearing

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June 8, 2021

Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona

Ms. Suzanne Goldberg

U.S. Department of Education

400 Maryland Ave SW

Washington, DC 20202

Submitted to: T9PublicHearing@ed.gov RE:

Notice for Public Hearing; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972;

Invitation for Written Comments Federal Registry No: 2021-10629

Dear Secretary Cardona and Ms. Goldberg:

I am pleased to submit these public comments on behalf of Newton Bible Christian School, Newton, Kansas regarding the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights "Announcement of Public Hearing; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972." Like other faith-based institutions that serve families, the mission of our school leads us to provide families with high-quality educational services that include strong academics and Christian teachings that inculcate the values and tenets of our faith into our students' lives. As an organization that partners with local churches and families, we believe that Christian schools are uniquely equipped to serve those in need and must be allowed to maintain their religious identity and practice as they teach students. As such, the religious freedom guaranteed under the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is vital to our religious mission of providing a holistic education for our students. With dependence on our natural rights and the protections of the First Amendment, I argue that President Biden's executive orders on "Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation" (EO 13988) and "Guaranteeing an Educational Environment Free from Discrimination on the Basis of Sex, Including Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity" (EO 14021) are a threat to the ability of religious institutions and families to practice faith without government interference.

The 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.

As an organization serving Christian families, I believe that each individual is uniquely created in the image of God. Therefore, our school strives to show Christ's love to all students by providing them an excellent education that teaches them how to reach their God-given potential, by living a productive and fulfilling life fully embracing their design and serving their communities and their calling in Christ. In order to continue the mission to advance Christian education with excellence, it is imperative that schools remain free to offer services and help

their communities without government interference in the most basic understandings of belief. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this essential matter. In summary, I ask that the Department of Education uphold the religious freedom of schools and the conscience rights of all Americans.

Sincerely,

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Sharon Regier
School Principal
Newton Bible Christian School

