

From: Vanessa Hall
Sent: Fri, 11 Jun 2021 17:03:23 +0000 (UTC)
To: T9PublicHearing
Subject: Written Comment: Title IX Public Hearing on Harassment and Protections

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I am a scout leader, church leader, and active volunteer in my school system. I am a fierce supporter of LGBTQIA rights, especially for students who are most vulnerable the effects of bullying and harassment. Parents of LGBTQIA students are terrified of how teachers, students, and other adults have already harmed and may harm their students in the schools. There need to be protections for the students and consequences/plans for addressing bullying and harassment based on gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation.

I have heard students and families asking for better protections of students from harassment (sexual or otherwise) for students of all genders, gender identities, and sexual orientation. (b)(6)

(b)(6) I am fearful for their safety and mental health, considering the current political environment that is leaking into our schools, as seen in the (b)(6) Public Schools. Teachers like (b)(6) (a PE teacher in (b)(6) who refuses to respect pronouns due to his bigotry) can harm students and their mental health.

LGBTQIA students have enough on their plate trying to find their way in the world. Please make it easier by creating policies that protect them and girls from sexual harassment and gender-based bullying.

-Vanessa Hall