

CONCERNED
WOMEN *for* AMERICA
YOUNG WOMEN FOR AMERICA

**Statement to the Office of Management and Budget/Office of Information and
Regulatory Affairs**

On Biden Administration's Title IX Rule

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My name is Morgan Schlesselman, and I am the National Director of Young Women for America, the high school and collegiate arm of Concerned Women for America. I represent thousands of young women across this nation who are losing their sex-based rights and the spaces, safety, privacy, and opportunities that belong to female students by having gender identity overrule sex. We have female leaders in 43 states and on more than 100 college campuses who are already experiencing the emotional, mental, physical, and psychological impacts that come from the erasure of women and loss of their sex-based rights, protections, and opportunities.

Academic and athletic scholarships have come such a long way in the 51 years since the passage of Title IX. These scholarships provide a quality education and foundation for the next generation of female leaders, teachers, businesswomen, lawyers, mothers, and doctors. On this note, here's what YWA Ambassador and four-year NCAA scholarshiped volleyball athlete Macy Petty said:

"President Biden's attempt to redefine something so ingrained in humanity would have devastating effects extending to nearly every aspect of the American life. It would effectively remove any possibility for sex-based protections or equal opportunity between sexes. I've personally felt how the degradation of sex can attack the dreams of girls across the nation. Because of it, I was robbed of a chance to showcase my athletic skills to college recruiters because the governing body allowed a boy onto our girls' court in the name of 'gender identity.' This consequential redefinition counteracted the years of hard work and dedication I had put into building these skills, suddenly they were all shadowed to the biological advantages of this man. The decision to remove the sex-based separation of sports easily could have cost me my

college education. Every boy this decision allows to occupy a girl's scholarship is one more little girl's dream of athletic scholarship lost because of an indomitable biological advantage."

Allowing gender identity to overrule sex will be the end of women's sports. Lia Thomas, Sadie Schreiner, and Meghan Cortez-Fields are just a few instances of males competing in women's sports and winning races, breaking records, and displacing women. In September 2022, Payton McNabb, a North Carolina high school senior volleyball player, suffered serious injuries when a male identifying as a female spiked the volleyball in her face. In November 2023, a male athlete on a girls' high school field hockey team injured a female player in Massachusetts. These instances are not outliers; it seems almost every week that one can read the news or go on social media to hear of another story where a male has entered a woman's sport which resulted in an injury.

In the last three years, we've had twelve YWA leaders testify in seven states in support of bills that would prohibit males from competing in women's sports. These leaders have done this to take a stand for biological reality, fairness, and truth.

Another factor in play here is the right to privacy. Kylee Alons, YWA Ambassador, collegiate swimmer, 31x All-American, and 2x NCAA Champion, experienced the confusion and chaos that happens when sex-based rights are not upheld:

"At the 2022 NCAA National Championship, I was thrown into an uncomfortable and stressful situation where I had to change into a skintight racing swimsuit in front of Lia Thomas, a male. As a swimmer, our racing suits take up to 30 minutes to get on, and I covered myself with a towel and parka while I changed in the locker room. However, I ended up finding a storage closet behind my team's bleachers and changed in there for the rest of the meet to avoid the stress of changing in front of the opposite sex. We were never warned that we would be forced to change in the same quarters with a man, despite the obvious infringement of our rights under Title IX. So many women share my experience and feeling on this matter, and yet we continue to be robbed of our achievements, be put in situations that violate our privacy and safety and continue to be silenced and ignored by the very organizations that claim to protect us."

Allowing gender identity to overrule sex puts women at risk of injury, loss of opportunity, loss of scholarship, and the emotional turmoil of what it means to be a woman not being protected under law. Young Women for America joins Concerned Women for America in fully opposing this rule change and stands in support of the unique dignity of women across this nation.