

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 10, 2016

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health & Human
Services, Education & Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

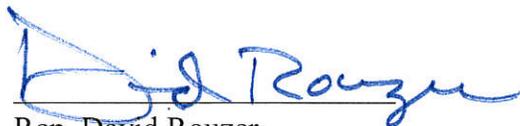
Dear Chairman Cole:

As the Subcommittee continues its work on the Fiscal Year 2017 Labor, Health & Human Services, Education & Related Agencies appropriations bill, we write to you regarding the Administration's recent letter issuing transgender student "guidance." This guidance letter, coauthored by the Departments of Education and Justice, is just the latest example of this Administration's egregious executive overreach. We are deeply concerned with the implications of this directive and seek your support to defund the Education Department's (ED) execution and enforcement of it.

The law prohibiting discrimination in schools is clear. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) prohibits sex discrimination in educational programs and activities operated by recipients of Federal financial assistance. The Administration's notion of "gender identity" is beyond the definition of sex as intended by Congress in Title IX. Although the law is clear on this issue, it is through this misinterpretation of Title IX that this Administration justifies its most recent guidance issued by the ED. The Administration's unilateral expansion of Title IX has no foundation in law and sets a dangerous precedent.

We agree that every American citizen deserves equal protection under the law. It is the duty, however, of state governments and Congress to write such laws. States like North Carolina already enforce laws that allow for the accommodation of transgender individuals while protecting the privacy of all citizens. Any court that reads the federal law as written and considers the statutory interpretation by previous courts will find the Administration's claims to be unsubstantiated. For the reasons asserted, we strongly encourage the Subcommittee to use the appropriate limitation measures necessary to curtail the ED from enforcing its transgender student guidance. We thank you in advance for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,


Rep. David Rouzer


Rep. George Holding

Mark Walker

Rep. Mark Walker

Walter B. Jones

Rep. Walter B. Jones, Jr.

Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter

Rep. Buddy Carter

Mike Rogers

Rep. Mike Rogers

Glenn Grothman

Rep. Glenn Grothman

Paul Gosar

Rep. Paul Gosar

Trent Kelly

Rep. Trent Kelly

Jason Smith

Rep. Jason Smith

Jeff Duncan

Rep. Jeff Duncan

Dave Brat

Rep. Dave Brat

Diane Black

Rep. Diane Black

Ralph Lee Abraham, M.D.

Rep. Ralph Lee Abraham, M.D.

Louie Gohmert

Rep. Louie Gohmert

Tim Huelskamp

Rep. Tim Huelskamp

Mo Brooks

Rep. Mo Brooks

Renee Ellmers

Rep. Renee Ellmers

Richard Hudson

Rep. Richard Hudson

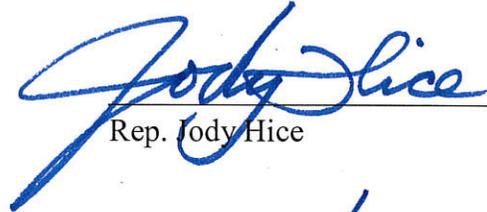
Randy Neugebauer

Rep. Randy Neugebauer

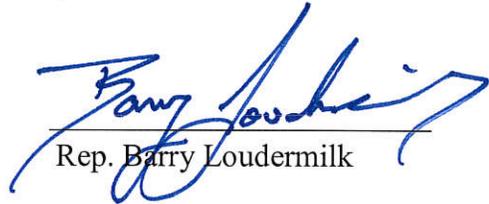

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Rep. Vicky Hartzler


Rep. Joseph R. Pitts


Rep. Jody Hice

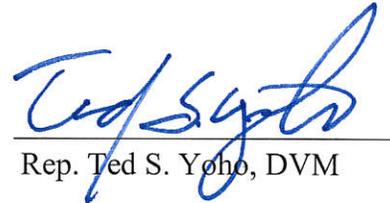

Rep. John Fleming, M.D.


Rep. Barry Loudermilk


Rep. Mike Kelly

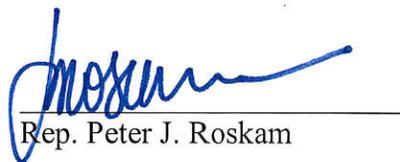

Rep. Robert Pittenger

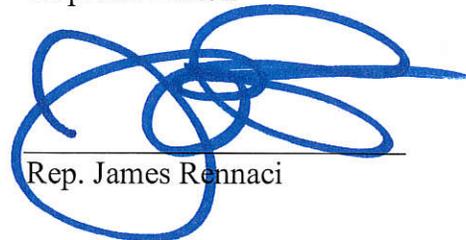

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