

TEXAS EAGLE FORUM

September 2022

Dear Eagles,

It was awesome to meet many of you at the Republican State Convention in Houston in June. Thank you for stopping by or sending your friends to our booth and our Meet and Greet Reception. Serving on the Platform Committee kept me booked from early morning until late at night but was worth every minute as I was able to propose important language changes that helped make our platform solidly conservative and a clear statement of our values and principles.

The 2022 Republican Platform, voted on by the delegates, is staunchly conservative and consists of our Legislative Priorities for the 88th Texas Legislative Session that begins in January. Rest assured, TEF will be there to represent you, your family, and your values. We will need you to encourage your elected officials to stand up for these principles.

The 2023 Texas GOP Legislative Priorities include election integrity, securing the border, banning gender modification procedures on children, repealing the “obscenity exemption,” which allows children access to pornographic material in public schools, abolishing abortion by making sure our laws that protect life are followed by local officials, defending our gun rights, and ensuring parental rights and educational freedom. A big agenda that will take lots of work and prayer to accomplish!

We are looking for more patriots to become TEF issue chairs to focus on one of the many issues we work on by reading upcoming bills on that subject, alerting us to any red flags, and, if possible, testifying at committee hearings during the session. If interested, please email me at TEF@TexasEagleForum.com. You would be surprised at how quickly you can become a true expert on an important issue. We need your help! If you have a passion for any issue in the platform, God might be calling you to become an issue leader for TEF.

Last month, I was asked to speak on parental rights at the “Title IX Take-Over Rally” in front of the Department of Education (DOE) building in Washington, D.C. My speech is featured in this month’s *Torch*. The Biden administration continues to overreach into every aspect of American education, and if they aren’t stopped, it does not bode well for future generations or our Nation.

Title IX was passed in 1972 to prohibit discrimination based on sex in federally funded educational activities. “Sex” referred to biological sex—male or female—and nothing more. The law requires equal opportunities for females to participate in public school and college sports.

On March 8, President Biden issued an Executive Order which adds the words “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” to the definition of the noun “sex” in schools. And on June 23, 2022, the Department of Education released a proposed rule redefining “sex” in Title IX in just that way.

(over, please)

The Department is taking President Biden's unconstitutional EO and rewriting rules for education in a way that upends the meaning of sex. The Department now considers it to be a violation of federal law if a school does anything other than fully accept and comply with student's self-proclaimed gender identity at school. Under the new proposed rule, schools must offer students special amenities—including access to opposite-sex bathrooms, new pronouns, and accommodations for dress—if the student claims a transgender identity. And other children are forced to give up religious convictions and free speech and agree that another child is not the sex they were born. And even worse, many schools take these steps without ever notifying parents or seeking their approval.

This is wrong on so many levels and a direct assault on parents' rights.

Unfortunately, the Title IX DOE directive is just one of the many issues facing families with kids in public schools today. Instead of fact-based, traditional curriculum, students are subjected to a progressive, radical social justice agenda, including a focus on feelings and emotions (SEL), group think, Critical Race Theory (CRT), and sexual perversion as normal (LGBTQ+). Our kids deserve better. TEF is working with many other groups on education issues so Texas students can grow and learn in a healthy environment and become all God made them to be.

Many of our freedoms hinge on the November 8th midterm election. In just a few weeks, we have a chance to regain seats in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House and reset the course of our nation back to a Constitutional Republic. We also must keep Texas RED. Between now and November, vet candidates, support good conservative candidates with your time, talent, and finances, and VOTE in-person (avoid mail-in ballots, if possible). Encourage like-minded family and friends to do the same, and remind your Democrat friends of what the Biden administration has done to destroy our country and our American way of life since taking office. The last date to register to vote is October 11th.

Like so many of you, I was appalled to learn of the FBI raid on former President Trump's home at Mar-A-Lago. Never in American history have we seen such an abuse of power by the federal government. President Trump said it best: "They are not coming for me, they are coming for you." He is right. The Left hates Trump because he speaks for a majority of middle-class Americans—hard-working, law-abiding, Bible-believing men and women of faith. In reality, the Marxists/Communists hate Jesus. We are in a spiritual battle of good vs evil (a battle as old as time itself), and it is up to each of us to take a stand, speak up, and pray.

I am grateful you stand with us in fighting to preserve our nation—created under God. These are the days to practice standing strong, as it could get worse before it gets better. Battle takes effort. Thank you for your partnership.

Faithfully,



Cindi Castilla
President of Texas Eagle Forum

THE TORCH

TEXAS EAGLE FORUM

September 2022 • Volume 35/Number 7



New Title IX Proposals Put Parental Rights in Peril

By **Cindi Castilla**, Texas Eagle Forum President, from a speech given at the "Stop the Title IX Take-Over Rally" in Washington, D.C., 8/11/22

As President of Texas Eagle Forum, I often get phone calls from distressed parents seeking help. For example, their child has gotten the notion at school that simply because a boy "loves" his best friends, or a girl, hers, they are likely gay or lesbian. This junk science is pushed by teaching tools such as the "Genderbread Person" (genderbreadperson.org) and brightly colored gender-confusing books.

Teachers take a child's innocent use of the word "love" and use it to introduce sexualized concepts to our youngest students. And this is just the beginning. Parents are distraught—how can they protect their children or grandchildren?

The bad news is our government is here to put these bad ideas into law.

The U.S. Department of Education (DOE), has proposed new Title IX rules which

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destroy parental rights in America. The Biden administration and DOE have unconstitutionally added the words “gender identity” to our laws in an attempt to enforce unscientific gender propaganda on our nation’s public school students.

It is quite disconcerting that the word “sex” or “sexual” is in the proposed rule-making document 2,985 times! “Regulation” shows up 1,301 times; “sexual orientation,” 77 times; and “gender identity,” 112 times. Our government is creating a problem by exposing children to gender and sexual propaganda at a young age, and then forcing our public schools to follow 701 pages of new regulations in education. These regulations strip away our parental rights and force schools to provide an inordinate number of special privileges to students who label themselves with a gender identity outside of scientifically proven male and female.

U.S. public education was originally intended to help a child reach his full potential and become a responsible citizen who loves his country. Education was never given the right to indoctrinate our children with social and harmful ideologies. As education continues to promote a social agenda instead of teaching factual knowledge, taxpayers and parents have watched the decline in U.S. educational outcomes. We continually spend more money to prop up public education, but many of our nation’s children are failing to receive even a basic functional education.

One of many egregious acts of the proposed Title IX rules is to force schools to promote anti-Christian ideas about sex, sexual orientation and gender identity to children of every age. Most young children do not think about these issues—they just don’t. Flinging these adult, and often perverted, ideas on trusting children is harmful and destructive to young minds. Parents have a right to protect their children from these concepts—and they, and only they, decide when their child is ready for this information.

Until very recently, gender confusion was considered a mental health issue and parents were advised to practice watchful waiting. Almost all gender-confused children embraced their birth sex as they got older. Those who were struggling because of abuse or other trauma were able to receive healing help.

Under these proposed rules, we can ask no questions. Free speech is muzzled when parents and children cannot express their own knowledge of truth and are forced to acquiesce to another’s perceived truth. The government is requiring everyone to agree that gender confusion is perfectly normal and their destructive solutions are good. *Truly, the emperor has no clothes!*

When our government forces a child to use another child’s self-declared pronouns, it is clearly acting hostile to religion, which has been declared unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Kennedy v Bremerton*. Christians and other Americans know God created men and women uniquely, with unchangeable XX or XY chromosomes, yet the Biden administration wants to force our children to believe in the government’s religion of Gender Theology. This is the establishment of religion in our schools. All Americans must

point to our Constitution and demand this ideology is removed from our schools as opposed to being platformed by these proposed rules.

Many of the proposed rules are written around the concept of “sexual harassment,” which can be redefined to include arbitrary hurt feelings. Administrators will face severe consequences for not solving any complaint broadly categorized as “sexual harassment.” Children who designate themselves anywhere on the LGBTQ+ spectrum will have extraordinary benefits offered to them on campus. These rules seem designed to recruit children to join the trendy gender movement.

Another reason to be alarmed is the idea children can be counseled without parental permission to choose their gender. That is a hard NO from parents across this country.

Under these rules, girls who play team sports will be forced to compete against males who “feel like” they are female. Not only will girls lose a spot on the team or chance to win coveted college scholarships, they will lose their privacy in locker rooms and showers. Males, by God’s design, have physical advantages over females, including larger lung capacity, larger hearts, and greater strength. As a result, males will continue to break athletic records females worked for years to set and hold. Letting transgender males compete on girls’ teams defies common sense and is grossly unfair.

To President Biden and the Department of Education we say:

- You may NOT indoctrinate our children in gender theology.
- You may NOT sexualize our children.
- You may NOT provide healthcare without our express permission.
- You may NOT collect our kids’ personal data.
- You may NOT invade our children’s privacy in bathrooms and locker rooms.
- You may NOT change the English language to accept ridiculous pronouns.
- You may NOT promote unhealthy behavior in our schools.

We DO give you permission to teach our children to read, to write, to do math, to study scientific ideas, and to learn from real history. You MUST equip them to launch into adulthood with the ability to think for themselves and become productive citizens.

If the Department of Education is seeking to destroy public education and increase the mass exodus from the institution, they are on the right track. If their goal is to truly educate our children, they MUST listen to parents and abandon this Title IX re-write which has nothing to offer actual education.

NOTE: The DOE is taking public comments until September 12. Go to [regulations.gov](https://www.doe.gov/regulations) and politely let them know your opinion on changing the definition of the word “sex” to include “sexual identity,” “gender identity,” and “sexual stereotypes,” and how it will affect young children in public schools. By law, the DOE must count and review every comment. Please do it today!



*Legislative
Priorities*

Families First

Parents are the Primary and Final Authority in All Matters
and in all decisions concerning their children. All other
entities are subordinate – amend TX Constitution

Schools will be Fully Transparent with Parents Regarding Everything
to which their child is or will be exposed, without exception

Establish Consequences for Districts & their Employees who Violate Parental Rights
guaranteed by the US Constitution, TX Constitution or Texas Law; allow legal remedy
not dependent on completion of local grievance process.

Effective Enforcement

Establish Parent Ombudsmen to Protect & Enforce Parent Rights

Return the Commissioner of Education to an Elected Position

Prohibit Acceptance of Federal Funds for Purposes that Violate Texas Law or Texas Sovereignty

Protect Our Children

Make it Illegal to Treat Our Children as Data or Profit Centers

It shall be illegal to collect, store, survey, sell, or analyze data related to students
and/or families that is not directly related to academic grades/test scores

Repeal the Obscenity Exemption in the Texas Penal Code

to make it indefensible to make available sexually inappropriate material to minors for any purpose

Only Biological Sex will be Recognized

End Taxpayer-Funded Lobbying & Non-Profit Affiliates

Back to Basics

Eliminate STAAR Tests and re-establish Educators as Academic Evaluators

Return Focus to Core Subjects (Reading, Writing, Math & Science)

CRT, SEL, School Based Health Centers, multi-tiered systems of support and any
other efforts to establish "whole child" education systems will be prohibited

Correct Failed Discipline Policies

Replace restorative discipline with consequential discipline. Restore due process
protections and the ability to appeal district discipline decisions

TexasEd911.com

NOTE: TEF has signed on with these activist moms who are on the front lines fighting to improve public education.



NEA's Anti-Child, Anti-American Agenda

At its recent annual meeting July 3–6 in Chicago, the National Education Association passed extreme pro-abortion and pro-“LGBTQ” policies. The reality is, this union wants children to be sexualized—those that are allowed to live. Here is an excerpt of a speech from NEA President Becky Pringle: “As we have for decades, we will fight tirelessly for the right to choose. We will fight unceasingly for the rights of our LGBTQ+ students and educators. We will say ‘gay,’ we will say ‘trans,’ we will use the words that validate our students and their families, words that encourage them to walk in their authenticity, to love themselves fully, to become who they are meant to be....” Except for one problem: homosexuality and gender deviance are never “authentic” for any child, nor is who he or she is meant to be. Corrupting children has become the main NEA goal. The destructive unions need to be removed from our schools.

SOURCE: missionamerica.com, July 2022, Vol. 2

Communist China Buying up Texas Land

Many Americans assume correctly that American soil is reserved for our citizens and businesses. The sobering fact, however, is that foreign nationals—both individuals and corporations—own a lot of land in America. Particularly troubling are incursions by the Communist Chinese Party (CCP) absorbing Texas soil for its strategic geopolitical ends. For the past decade, the number of purchases of agricultural resources by foreign actors has dramatically increased across the nation, with Texas being No. 1, according to a review of USDA documents. Currently at least 4.7 million acres of Texas’ agricultural land is owned by a foreign entity or individual. One of the most troubling is the land purchased by the CCP near Del Rio, a mere 70 miles from Laughlin Air Force Base, the largest pilot training base in the USAF, and near liquified natural gas deposits. Texas Ag Commissioner Sid Miller said the CCP bought farm land near another air force base in ND. “We don’t need to give them listening capabilities coming in and out of those military installations. It’s crazy enough just to allow our biggest enemy to be purchasing our own soil.”

SOURCE: Texas Scorecard, 8/9/22

USPS Creates a Special Unit to Oversee Mail-in Ballots

The U.S. Postal Service has created a permanent division to oversee mail-in ballots beginning with this year’s midterm election. Several months ago, the Biden administration requested \$5 billion to support the USPS mail-in voting operations over the next 10 years. The proposal includes making “official ballot materials free to mail and enhancing the Postal Service’s ability to securely and expeditiously deliver and receive mail in underserved areas.” The Election and Government Mail Services unit will oversee “election mail strike teams” in local communities to deal with possible problems, according to Adrienne Marshall, executive director of the newly created division. So far, nearly 40 million ballots have been mailed to and from voters during primary elections. Republicans have said that mail-in ballots invite fraud and are unreliable. Chuck Devore of *The Federalist* asks, “Should the voting public be concerned about the USPS paying closer attention to mail-in ballots? It depends on the trust you place in federal institutions and their employees.”

SOURCE: *The Epoch Times*, 8/2/22

Quote of the Month

“For far too long in K–12 education, the only special interest group has been the teachers unions. Now, there’s a new interest group—parents. They are never going to unsee what they saw in 2020 and 2021, and they’re going to fight to make sure they never feel powerless when it comes to their children’s education again.”

~ Corey DeAngelis,
“Can the GOP Become the Parents’ Party?” *The Wall Street Journal*, 6/27/22

Great American Quote

“Our liberty, growth, and prosperity was the result of a Biblical philosophy of life. Our continued freedom and success is dependent on our educating the youth of America in the principles of Christianity.”

~ Noah Webster, known as the
“Schoolmaster of the Republic,”
Webster’s Dictionary, 1828

Texas Eagle Forum

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