

# PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SPORTS ACT OF 2025

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**Background:** In the 50 years after Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) was enacted, female participation in sports increased 1,057 percent at the high school level and 614 percent at the [postsecondary level](#). Title IX revolutionized women's sports, but unfortunately, that progress is under threat today.

**The Problem:** Last year, the Biden administration released a regulation that threatens to eliminate states' ability to comprehensively protect women and girls from discrimination in athletics. Twenty-six states have enacted policies to protect equal athletic opportunities for women and girls, and not taking immediate action could generate mass confusion about the circumstances under which states, schools, and institutions can protect the integrity of women's athletic competitions. Ignoring the biological differences between men and women is a catastrophe for women. It destroys a level playing field and makes women second class citizens in their own sports.

**THE SOLUTION:** Congress passed Title IX to increase athletic opportunities for women, and now we must take further steps to protect the progress of the last 50 years. The Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act of 2023 strengthens the law's existing protections for women, ensures a level playing field for female athletes, and protects the law from the radical regulatory scheme envisioned by Democrats. **Specifically, the bill:**

- **Clarifies** that a recipient of federal education funding violates Title IX's prohibition against sex discrimination if the recipient operates, sponsors, or facilitates athletic programs or activities and allows a person whose sex is male to participate in an athletic program or activity that is designated for women or girls.
- **States** that sex in the athletic context must be recognized based only on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth.
- **Clarifies** that the bill's provisions do not prohibit schools or institutions from permitting males to practice against women's sports teams, protecting the longstanding routine of some women's athletic programs of practicing or scrimmaging against males.

