

Laura Belin laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com

Attorney General Bird Challenges Biden-Harris Transgender Mandate that Jeopardizes School Accommodations for Kids

Laura Belin laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com

Fri, Feb 14, 2025 at 2:21 PM

To: "Brouillet, Alyssa" <alyssa.brouillet@ag.iowa.gov>, eric.wessan@ag.iowa.gov

Asking again for you to point me to any language in the court filing that supports your office's characterization of the lawsuit.

The rule in question was issued by HHS, not the Department of Education. It would not affect 504 plans for students in schools, UNLESS the court agrees with plaintiff states (including lowa) that all of Section 504 is unconstitutional under the Spending Clause.

The "gender dysphoria" language is not even part of the rule--it's from the preamble to the rule.

A lawsuit narrowly focused on the HHS rule or its preamble would have no impact on school accommodations under Section 504.

Is the state of lowa's position that Section 504 should be struck down as unconstitutional? And if not, do you intend to withdraw from this lawsuit?

Any reply by the close of business today would be appreciated.

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From: Laura Belin < laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com>

Date: Wed, Feb 12, 2025 at 4:00 PM

Subject: Fwd: Attorney General Bird Challenges Biden-Harris Transgender Mandate that Jeopardizes School

Accommodations for Kids

To: Brouillet, Alyssa <alyssa.brouillet@ag.iowa.gov>

Alyssa, please point me to ANY language in the lawsuit that seeks to "protect" Section 504 accommodations for students.

The complaint argues at length that all of Section 504 is an unconstitutional violation of the Spending Clause.

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From: Iowa Attorney General <lowaAttorneyGeneral@public.govdelivery.com>

Date: Wed, Feb 12, 2025 at 3:56 PM

Subject: Attorney General Bird Challenges Biden-Harris Transgender Mandate that Jeopardizes School

Accommodations for Kids

To: <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com>

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Attorney General Bird Challenges Biden-Harris Transgender Mandate that Jeopardizes School Accommodations for Kids

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 Contact: Alyssa Brouillet | Communications Director | 515-823-9112 | alyssa.brouillet@ag.iowa.gov

DES MOINES—In September 2024, Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird signed onto a 17-state lawsuit challenging a Biden-Harris transgender mandate that threatens school accommodations for kids.

The Biden-Harris mandate illegally attempted to include "gender dysphoria" under Section 504, a law that protects school accommodations for kids with disabilities such as ADHD or diabetes. When Congress originally passed Section 504, the law excluded "gender identity disorders not resulting from physical impairments, or other sexual behavior disorders." If left unchecked, the Biden-Harris scheme to push woke, transgender ideologies on kids would have made all of Section 504 unconstitutional and jeopardized school accommodations for kids who need it.

"The Biden-Harris Administration stopped at nothing to force illegal, transgender ideologies in our schools, even at the cost of critical classroom accommodations for kids," said Attorney General Bird. "Parents, we hear you loud and clear. No parent should have to worry about whether their kid will get the support they need in school. This lawsuit puts the full force of 17 states behind ending the woke, Biden-Harris mandate that sexualizes kids. We are protecting Section 504 accommodations for students who need it."

The lawsuit is suspended due to the change in Administration. President Trump's Administration is reviewing the lawsuit. President Trump has already made significant strides to protect kids in schools by signing an executive order to protect girls' sports.

Iowa joined the Texas-led lawsuit, along with Alaska, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, and West Virginia.

Read the full lawsuit here.

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1705 Plaza Circle Windsor Heights, IA 50324

(515) 276-6971

Website: https://www.bleedingheartland.com

Substack: https://laurabelin.substack.com

1705 Plaza Circle Windsor Heights, IA 50324 (515) 276-6971

Website: https://www.bleedingheartland.com

Substack: https://laurabelin.substack.com