

Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com>

## seeking comment on lawsuit over section 504

Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com> To: "Brouillet, Alyssa" <alyssa.brouillet@ag.iowa.gov> Mon, Feb 10, 2025 at 6:19 PM

Alyssa, Attorney General Bird told me this afternoon that it's an "urban legend" to claim the lawsuit is seeking to have Section 504 declared unconstitutional. She said your office can send the amicus brief. Please send me the brief she is referring to.

Please also clarify whether Iowa is still a party to this lawsuit, filed in September 2024:

https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/images/press/HHS%20Rehabilitation%20Act%20Complaint% 20Filestamped.pdf

Note that this lawsuit challenges the Rehabilitation Act as a whole--not only the Biden administrative rule that suggested gender dysphoria is a disability.

Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court:

- a. Issue permanent injunctive relief against Defendants enjoining them from enforcing the Final Rule;
- b. Declare that the Final Rule violates the Administrative Procedure Act;
- c. Hold unlawful and set aside (*i.e.*, vacate) the Final Rule;
- d. Declare Section 504, 29 U.S.C. § 794, unconstitutional;
- e. Issue permanent injunctive relief against Defendants enjoining them from enforcing Section 504;
- f. Award attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action to Plaintiffs;
- g. Issue any and all other relief to Plaintiffs the Court deems just and proper.

On Mon, Feb 10, 2025 at 2:40 PM Laura Belin <laurarbelin@bleedingheartland.com> wrote: Hello Alyssa,

I have learned that Attorney General Bird signed on to this lawsuit several months ago. Was this ever announced? I do not recall seeing it.

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Within the disability community, there is a lot of concern that this lawsuit will lead to the elimination of 504 plans.

I note that the states including lowa are asking the court to "Declare Section 504, 29 U.S.C. § 794, unconstitutional," and "Issue permanent injunctive relief against Defendants enjoining them from enforcing Section 504."

Why does Attorney General Bird want to eliminate 504 plans?

Did she consult with anyone in the disability community to find out how this would affect children who need accommodations in order to receive a free and appropriate public education?

Why hasn't the Attorney General's office highlighted this litigation?

Thanks in advance for any comments you can provide.

Yours,

Laura

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