



SPONSOR: Sen. Gay & Sen. Pinkney & Rep. Longhurst &  
Rep. Minor-Brown  
Sens. Bonini, Brown, Ennis, Hansen, Hocker, Lawson,  
Lockman, Lopez, Mantzavinos, S. McBride, Paradee,  
Pettyjohn, Poore, Richardson, Sokola, Sturgeon,  
Townsend, Walsh, Wilson; Reps. Baumbach,  
Briggs King, Freel, Griffith, K. Johnson, Mitchell,  
Osienski, Michael Smith, K. Williams

DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 126

RECOGNIZING TITLE IX'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY AND ITS POSITIVE IMPACT ON STUDENTS.

1 WHEREAS, the members of the 151<sup>st</sup> General Assembly of the State of Delaware wish to recognize and  
2 commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the enactment of Title IX and to celebrate its history and impact; and

3 WHEREAS, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, popularly referred to as Title IX, was passed on  
4 June 23, 1972, codifying protection from discrimination based on sex in educational programs, stating that "No person in  
5 the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subjected to  
6 discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance;" and

7 WHEREAS, Title IX applies to schools, local and state educational agencies, and other institutions that receive  
8 federal financial assistance, including approximately 17,600 local school districts, over 5,000 postsecondary institutions,  
9 charter schools, for-profit schools, libraries, and museums, and requires that these recipients operate their education  
10 programs and activities in a nondiscriminatory manner free of discrimination based on sex, including sexual orientation and  
11 gender identity; and

12 WHEREAS, recipients of federal financial assistance have Title IX obligations in many key areas, including  
13 recruitment, admissions, counseling, financial assistance, athletics, sex-based harassment, sexual violence, treatment of  
14 pregnant and parenting students, treatment of LGBTQI+ students, discipline, single-sex education, and employment; and

15 WHEREAS, before Title IX, women were often excluded from or had only limited access to higher education  
16 programs, as colleges and universities set quotas for the admission of women or prohibited them altogether, and women  
17 who were accepted often had the requirement of higher test scores and grades for their admission; and

18 WHEREAS, discrimination based on sex did not cease after admission; often, women had less access to  
19 scholarships and were excluded from "male" programs, such as medicine; they also faced more restrictive rules than their  
20 male peers, such as early curfews; this resulted in a college graduation rate for women of 8%, which was almost half that of  
21 men in 1970; and

22 WHEREAS, since 1972, educational attainment rates among women have increased; as of 2020, the percentage of  
23 women who had completed at least high school increased to 95%, the percentage with an associate's degree increased to  
24 50%, the percentage with a bachelor's degree increased to 39% and the percentage with a master's or higher degree  
25 increased to 9%; and

26 WHEREAS, prior to Title IX, there were fewer than half a million girls participating in high school athletics, and  
27 collegiate sports teams and scholarships were overwhelmingly reserved for men's athletics; women's sports often received  
28 less than 5% of the overall athletics budget at colleges and universities, and only 15% of women in college participated in  
29 an organized or competitive sport; and

30 WHEREAS, the number of girls participating in high school sports has increased by ten times the amount prior to  
31 Title IX's adoption and now comprises 42% of high school athletes, and a quarter of college women now participate in a  
32 much wider variety of sports that receive dramatically increased funding; and

33 WHEREAS, while Title IX has made several necessary and welcomed advancements in the protection against  
34 sexual discrimination, there is still work to be done for the next generation of students, including addressing research that  
35 has discovered that the difference between girls and boys sports is significantly greater when the student body is  
36 predominantly comprised of racial and ethnic minorities, addressing the education and pay gap that exists between degrees  
37 dominated by men and those dominated by women, and addressing the sexual harassment and discrimination based on  
38 sexual orientation and gender identity that continue to plague students at all levels; and

39 WHEREAS, while Title IX has been instrumental in fostering 50 years of progress toward equality in educational  
40 institutions and the workplace, there remains progress to be made; and

41 WHEREAS, the State of Delaware remains committed to ensuring campus safety, ending sex-based discrimination  
42 against all students in elementary, secondary, and higher education, and providing equal opportunities for all students.

43 NOW, THEREFORE:

44 BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the 151<sup>st</sup> General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of  
45 Representatives concurring therein, recognizes the impact of this historic legislation that is now in its 50th year.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Delaware General Assembly urges the citizens of Delaware to recommit  
47 to the ideals of Title IX and work to build upon its foundation to continue to expand the protection of equal rights.

#### SYNOPSIS

This Resolution commemorates the 50th anniversary of the enactment of Title IX and recognizes the impact it has had on improving equality in educational institutions and the workplace, while committing to build upon its foundation to continue to expand the protection of equal rights.

Author: Senator Gay