

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SIXTY-FIRST SESSION**



**BILL NO. 61-89**

**INTRODUCED BY: Sparks (CSS)**

**SECONDED BY: Higgins (Alliance)**

**A BILL TO: Support Students & Affected Communities through Title IX Changes**

**THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:**

**WHEREAS**, In recent actions taken by the current presidential administration, significant changes have been made to Title IX, impacting transgender individuals participation in sports, rescinding many rights previously afforded to members of the LGBTQIA+ community, and altering how universities handle and report cases of sexual assault; and,

**WHEREAS**, When Title IX was originally enacted, it was based on the principles of the 14th Amendment's Equal Protection Clause, ensuring that no individual is discriminated against on the basis of sex in federally funded education programs and activities. The law states: "*No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance*"<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, Over the years, Title IX has been expanded to address issues beyond athletics, including sexual harassment and assault, providing universities with clear guidelines for addressing such incidents. Additionally, it has been interpreted to include safeguards in order to protect LGBTQ+ students from discrimination; and,

**WHEREAS**, Despite these protections, there have been ongoing debates regarding transgender athletes and broader LGBTQ+ rights under Title IX. Under the 46th Presidential Administration, the policies enacted by the 45th Presidential Administration<sup>2</sup> were reviewed and rescinded<sup>3</sup>, leading to the expansion of protections for LGBTQ+

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<sup>1</sup>

<https://www.uscourts.gov/about-federal-courts/educational-resources/educational-activities/14th-amendment-and-evolution-title-ix>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/29/us/politics/devos-campus-sexual-assault.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share&referrerSource=articleShare>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/08/us/politics/joe-biden-title-ix.html>

students and transgender athletes under the 46th Presidential Administration<sup>4</sup>. However, recent executive orders under the 47th Presidential Administration have rolled back many of these protections<sup>5</sup>, including: banning transgender student-athletes from participating in women's sports<sup>6</sup> and threats by the Department of Education to halt programs that support transgender students<sup>7</sup>. These policy reversals create uncertainty for students who depend on Title IX for protection, leaving the future of gender and sexuality equality in jeopardy; and,

**WHEREAS**, Additionally, regarding sexual harassment policies, the U.S. Department of Education has directed educational institutions to revert to the 2020 Title IX regulations. These regulations: require live hearings with cross-examinations for sexual misconduct cases, provide additional protections for accused students, and narrow the definition of sexual harassment, limiting institutional liability by holding schools responsible only for incidents occurring on-campus or within school-sponsored programs and events; and,

**WHEREAS**, The rights afforded to individuals have increasingly been used as political tools, leaving affected students and individuals with little to no knowledge of the rights and protections they still possess provided by Title IX and the University; and,

**WHEREAS**, No student—regardless of their sexuality, gender identity, or experience of harassment or assault—should have to live in fear, watching the rights once granted to them be stripped away or sufficiently changed, without the full backing, protection, and support of the universities and the federal government; therefore be it,

**RESOLVED**, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall issue a statement outlining the departments, resources, and support services available at Michigan State University for individuals and communities affected by changes to Title IX, reaffirming ASMSU's commitment to upholding their rights and freedoms; and let it be further,

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<sup>4</sup><https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/19/us/politics/biden-title-ix-rules.html?smid=url-share>

<sup>5</sup><https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/31/us/politics/education-dept-title-ix-sexual-misconduct.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share&referringSource=articleShare>

<sup>6</sup><https://www.nytimes.com/2025/02/05/us/politics/trump-order-transgender-athletes-womens-sports.html?searchResultPosition=1>

<sup>7</sup>[https://www.them.us/story/departament-education-tells-staff-halt-programs-supporting-trans-students?utm\\_source](https://www.them.us/story/departament-education-tells-staff-halt-programs-supporting-trans-students?utm_source)

**RESOLVED**, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall engage with the Michigan State University Administration to ensure that those impacted continue to receive support from the university and the broader Spartan community. This commitment includes continued programming and other initiatives that affirm their place at Michigan State University and that they are knowledgeable of the protections they still possess, regardless of federal policy changes.

INTRODUCED ON 03.13.2025

REFERRED TO Academic COMMITTEE ON 02.27.2025

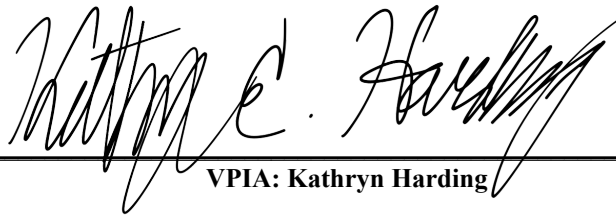
SPECIAL ACTION TAKEN \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

COMMITTEE ACTION	<u>X</u>		<u>Voice Majority</u>	<u>02.27.2025</u>
	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE	DATE

FINAL ACTION TAKEN	<u>X</u>		<u>Voice Majority</u>	<u>03.13.2025</u>
	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE	DATE



PRESIDENT: Connor Le



VPIA: Kathryn Harding