

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 70

BY SENATORS BARROW, BERNARD, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CONNICK, CORTEZ, FOIL, HENRY, HEWITT, JACKSON, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, MIZELL, PEACOCK, POPE, PRICE, REESE, SMITH, STINE, TALBOT, TARVER, WARD, WHITE AND WOMACK

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize and commemorate the 50th anniversary of the enactment of Title IX and to celebrate its history and impact.

WHEREAS, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 was passed on June 23, 1972; and

WHEREAS, Representatives Patsy T. Mink and Edith Green led the fight in Congress to pass this landmark legislation; and

WHEREAS, on October 29, 2002, Title IX was named the "Patsy Takemoto Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act" in recognition of Representative Mink's heroic, visionary, and tireless leadership in developing and passing Title IX; and

WHEREAS, Title IX codifies protection from discrimination based on sex in educational programs, stating that 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 educational program or activity receiving federal financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, Title IX helped tear down inequitable admissions policies, increase opportunities for women in nontraditional fields of study such as math and science, improve vocational education opportunities for women, reduce discrimination against pregnant students and teen mothers, protect female students from sexual harassment in our schools, and increase athletic opportunities for girls and women; and

WHEREAS, Title IX has opened the doors of educational opportunity to millions of women and girls across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Title IX applies to all public and private elementary schools, secondary schools, school districts, colleges, and universities receiving any federal funding; and

WHEREAS, before the passage of Title IX, women and girls faced discrimination and limited opportunities in higher education programs, athletics, and extracurricular activities; and

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

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana remains committed to ensuring campus safety, ending sex-based discrimination against all students in elementary, secondary, and higher education, and providing equal opportunities for all students; and

WHEREAS, several coaches and athletes throughout the state of Louisiana have been recognized as Title IX trailblazers in the realm of women's athletics, including Sue Gunter, DD Breaux, Ann Smith, Yvette Girouard, Leon Barmore, Sonja Hogg, Louise "Do" Bonin, Emma Ellerman Boozman, Lisa Brewer, Mona Davidson Martin, Dianne Pitmann McCain, Pat Nolen Pierson, Robin Roberts, and many others; and

WHEREAS, Title IX has been the basis for Louisiana laws that protect students from discrimination based on sex in Louisiana colleges and universities, laws requiring policy creation and reform regarding power-based violence, and laws requiring power-based violence accountability in Louisiana schools; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature, with dynamic leadership from its female Senate and House members, passed significant and comprehensive bills in 2021, which were signed into law by Governor John Bel Edwards, that expanded Title IX laws on a state level through the development of power-based violence laws.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commemorate the 50th anniversary of Title IX, and commends the national movement and state focus on increased equality for and fair treatment of all students.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES