SAMPLE LETTERS or email messages

Request for Title IX position from Senator

Subject: Request for [Senator's name] Position and Voting Record on Title IX Issues

Dear Senator [Last Name],

I am writing to request information regarding your position and voting record on Title IX and its relevance in today's educational landscape. I am kindly requesting the following information:

- 1. Your current stance on Title IX with respect to transwomen in women's sports. Please share any specific policy initiatives or changes you support or reject.
- 2. Your current stance on Title IX with respect to due process rights in sexual misconduct adjudications on campuses. Please share any specific policy initiatives or changes you support or reject.
- 3. Your voting record (if any) on Title IX-related issues or bills: As your constituent, I would appreciate knowing how you have voted on past legislation related to Title IX and the above mentioned issues. Please provide identifying numbers for each issue or bill.
- 4. Your future plans and commitments on any upcoming bills or proposals concerning Title IX and the above mentioned issues. Insight into your plans for future action on such matters will be essential for me to gauge your viewpoint on these crucial issues.

I believe that transparency and communication between elected representatives and their constituents are fundamental to a healthy democracy. Your response will greatly aid me in making informed decisions about my support for your work as a senator.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my request. I look forward to receiving your response. Wishing you all the best in your service to our state and our nation.

Sincerely,
[Name]
[Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]
[Email Address]

Request for Title IX position from a member of the House of Representative

Subject: Request for [Representative's name] Position and Voting Record on Title IX Issues

Dear Mr. or Ms. [Last Name],

I am writing to request information regarding your position and voting record on Title IX and its relevance in today's educational landscape. I am kindly requesting the following information:

1. Your current stance on Title IX and transwomen in women's sports. Please share any specific policy initiatives or changes you support or reject.

- 2. Your current stance on Title IX and due process in sexual misconduct adjudications on campuses. Please share any specific policy initiatives or changes you support or reject.
- 3. Your voting record (if any) on Title IX-related issues or bills: As your constituent, I would appreciate knowing how you have voted on past legislation related to Title IX and the above mentioned issues. Please provide identifying numbers for each issue or bill.
- 4. Your future plans and commitments on any upcoming bills or proposals concerning Title IX and the above mentioned issues. Insight into your plans for future action on such matters will be essential for me to gauge your viewpoint on these crucial issues.

I believe that transparency and communication between elected representatives and their constituents are fundamental to a healthy democracy. Your response will greatly aid me in making informed decisions about my support for your work as my representative.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my request. I look forward to receiving your response. Wishing you all the best in your service to our state and our nation.

Sincerely,
[Name]
[Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]
[Email Address]

Personal story directed to an elected official regarding due process and Title IX

Subject: Unjust and Unfair Tribunal

Dear [Elected official's Name],

I am writing to you today to bring attention to a deeply distressing and unjust situation I have faced during my time as a student at [University/College Name]. First, I must emphasize that the allegations disclosed below are entirely untrue and baseless. I have always conducted myself with utmost respect, integrity, and consent in all my interactions with fellow students and members of the university community.

[Your story]

Example of a story: On [date] I was accused of sexual misconduct by an individual on campus. The matter was taken to a Title IX campus tribunal, where I was subjected to an investigation and trial process. However, throughout the proceedings, I was denied the fundamental principles of due process [examples, i.e., attempts to present exculpatory evidence was dismissed or suppressed.]. Furthermore, I was denied basic fairness [examples, i.e., vital witnesses who could have provided crucial testimony were disregarded], and impartiality [examples]. In other words, I was denied my civil liberties, enshrined in our constitution, that are essential for determining the truth in any system of justice. The campus officials seemed predisposed to believing the accusations without affording me a genuine opportunity to present my defense and confront my accuser. This blatant lack of fairness and transparency not only impacted my reputation but also led to severe academic and social repercussions [examples of both].

After my traumatic experience I learned that many other students in many other colleges have also endured similar experiences. To date over 850 individuals have filed lawsuits to prove their innocence after a campus tribunal, and this number just represents those who can afford a lawyer and expensive lawsuit https://titleixforall.com/title-ix-lawsuits-database/.

[Elected official's name] I have two questions for you:

- 1. Are you committed to **upholding justice** and fundamental fairness in all aspects of our society?
- 2. **What would you do**, if *you* or any member of your family was wrongfully accused of an offense, stripped of your/their civil liberties, subjected to a biased investigation and unjustifiably punished?

As your constituent and a U.S. citizen, I urge you to support efforts to reform the campus disciplinary and Title IX process to ensure that all involved are granted their constitutional rights, including due process, the presumption of innocence, access to equal representation, and access to impartial decision-makers. By ensuring both complainant and respondent's rights are respected, we create an atmosphere of trust and confidence in the accuracy and reliability of decisions made in campus tribunals. That is, ensuring that those responsible for misconduct are held accountable, those who are innocent are not punished, and those who are victims of misconduct are supported.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and consider how we can reform the broken Title IX campus disciplinary system.

With painful sincerity, [Name]

General letter or message to an elected official regarding due process and Title IX

Subject: An Urgent Call to Action: Upholding Due Process and Safeguarding Title IX

Dear [Title and Last Name],

I write to you with a matter of utmost importance that demands our immediate attention: safeguarding the principles of Title IX while upholding the fundamental value of due process in campus tribunals.

Title IX, a landmark federal civil rights law, was enacted to eliminate sex-based discrimination in educational institutions. Its vision of fostering equal opportunities for all students, regardless of gender, is commendable and pivotal for creating a fair and inclusive learning environment. However, as we continue to champion the spirit of Title IX, we must also ensure that the principles of due process, enshrined in our constitution, are not compromised in the system.

In recent years, the procedures employed in many campus tribunals for addressing sexual misconduct allegations have eliminated or severely restricted due process. While it is crucial to hold perpetrators accountable and provide support for victims, we must remember that fair treatment of all involved, including the accused, is essential for determining the truth. A balanced approach that respects both the rights of the complainant and the respondent is the foundation of a just system.

By maintaining our civil liberties in campus tribunals, we safeguard the following principles:

Presumption of Innocence: It is a fundamental pillar of any just system that individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty. This principle must be upheld in campus tribunals to prevent the potential stigmatization of accused students before a fair investigation takes place.

Right to Representation: Ensuring that both parties have access to equal representation levels the playing field and allows each side to present their case comprehensively. This enables a fair and transparent assessment of the facts.

Thorough and Impartial Investigations: The pursuit of truth demands that investigations be thorough, unbiased, and free from any external pressures. We must establish mechanisms to ensure that all parties are treated equitably throughout the process.

Appeal and Review Mechanisms: Instituting robust appeal and review mechanisms provides a safety net, assuring that any potential errors or biases in decision-making can be addressed and rectified.

As we strive to honor the integrity of Title IX, it is vital to recognize that <u>upholding due process does not undermine the objectives of the law; rather, it enhances its effectiveness.</u> By promoting a system that respects the rights of all individuals involved, we create an atmosphere of trust and confidence in the accuracy and reliability of decisions made in campus tribunals. Thus ensuring that those responsible for misconduct are held accountable, those who are innocent are not punished, and those who are victims of misconduct are supported.

I implore you, [Elected Official's Name], to take a leading role in supporting legislation that emphasizes both the preservation of fundamental fairness and due process along with Title IX's original objectives. We must work collaboratively to strike the delicate balance between fostering a safe campus environment and upholding the principles of justice.

Your dedication to the future of our educational institutions makes you a powerful advocate for positive change. Let us join forces to create a model for addressing sexual misconduct that stands as a beacon of fairness, inclusivity, reliability, and respect for all.

Thank you for your time and consideration, [YName]
[Address]
[City, State, Zip Code]
[Email Address]