



Statement of Support of Letter From U.S. Senate to Betsy DeVos

June 27, 2017: #SaveYourVI would like to thank the 34 U.S. Senators that are requesting that Betsy DeVos and the Department of Education release a set of documents to show the current status of discrimination and sexual harassment/assault cases handled by the department's Office of Civil Rights (OCR). We appreciate your perseverance in asking the important questions that will protect our students' civil rights. #SaveYourVI shares your concerns.

#SaveYourVI is a campaign that provides information about students' Title VI protections which, as part of the Civil Rights Act, require federally funded schools to provide all students access to an education free from discrimination or harassment due to their race, color, or national origin. With Betsy DeVos' new restrictions on OCR budget, scope of investigations, and data collection, our students risk having neither a place to turn to for protection from harassment or discrimination while at school nor a mechanism to fix systemic problems.

We absolutely agree with the US Senators regarding Betsy DeVos' "...confusing and contradictory answers about the federal role protecting students' civil rights and whether you believe that all schools receiving federal funds should follow civil rights laws.[1]" and that Ms. DeVos' recent directives "... have reemphasized longstanding concerns about your dedication that all students no matter their race, religion, disability, country of origin, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity.[2]"

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For more information on how Title VI protects students click [here](#).

To see #SaveYourVI's open letter to Betsy DeVos click [here](#).

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[1] <https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/3878460/Betsy-DeVos-ED-Office-of-Civil-Rights-OCR.pdf>

[2] <https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/3878460/Betsy-DeVos-ED-Office-of-Civil-Rights-OCR.pdf>

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