

Cosponsor the Title IX 35th Anniversary Resolution

May 17, 2007

Dear Representative:



On behalf of the over 100,000 bipartisan members of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), **we urge you to cosponsor the resolution celebrating Title IX (H. Res. 406)**. Since its enactment in 1972, Title IX has become one of the most successful pieces of civil rights legislation in American history. Title IX was designed to be a strong and comprehensive measure that would attack all forms of sex discrimination in education and, in so doing, provide educational opportunities formerly closed to women and girls.

While Title IX has indeed succeeded in opening doors in the classroom and on the athletic field, inequities and barriers still remain. Title IX is as necessary today as it was thirty-five years ago. Consider the following challenges that girls and women still face:

- **Sexual harassment in public schools:** 83 percent of girls and 79 percent of boys surveyed have experienced it.ⁱ
- **Barriers in high wage fields such as science, technology, engineering, and math:** Women receive only 20 percent of computer science and engineering-related technology bachelor's degrees.ⁱⁱ
- **Tenure at Colleges and Universities:** Only 39 percent of all full professors at colleges and universities are women.ⁱⁱⁱ
- **Inequality in Athletic Funding:** Women's teams receive only 33 percent of recruiting dollars and 38 percent of athletic operating dollars.^{iv}

AAUW encourages you to become a cosponsor of this resolution that celebrates this important legislation and helps ensure that Title IX remains strong and effective. Please contact Ary Amerikaner in Rep Hirono's office at 202/225-4906 or ary.amerikaner@mail.house.gov to become a cosponsor. If you have any further questions, feel free to contact me, or Tracy Sherman, government relations manager at 202-785-7730. Votes associated with these issues may be included in the AAUW Congressional Voting Record for the 110th Congress.

Sincerely,



Lisa M. Maatz
Director of Public Policy and Government Relations

ⁱ AAUW Educational Foundation. *Hostile Hallways: Bullying, Teasing, and Sexual Harassment in School*, p. 4. 2001.

ⁱⁱ AAUW Educational Foundation. *Women at Work*. 2003.

ⁱⁱⁱ West, Martha S. and John W. Curtis. "AAUP Faculty Gender Equity Indicators 2006." American Association of University Professors. <http://www.aaup.org/NR/rdonlyres/63396944-44BE-4ABA-9815-5792D93856F1/0/AAUPGenderEquityIndicators2006.pdf> Accessed +December 18, 2006.

^{iv} NCAA Gender Equity Report, 2003-2004. Statistics available from Women's Sports Foundation. <http://www.womenssportsfoundation.org/cgi-bin/iowa/issues/article.html?record=1017> Accessed December 18, 2006.