



## **Oppose the Equality Act: Will Radically Transform our Public Schools, Undermine Parental Rights, and Expand Abortion Access**

Dear Senator:

March 4, 2021

Pro-Family Women strongly urges you to vote against the Equality Act (H.R. 5). This act means that nothing will be equal again for Christians and other people of religious faith.

**Radical Transformation of Public Schools.** Public schools nationwide will be required to allow students into bathrooms, locker rooms, showers, overnight accommodations, and sports, based on the student's asserted "gender identity." This violates not only the other students' privacy and modesty, but potentially imposes psycho-sexual trauma on students by requiring them to shower in front of a member of the opposite sex. The bill's prohibition on gender identity "discrimination" in federally-funded programs will most certainly mean that public school teachers will be required to address trans-identifying students by their new names and chosen pronouns, even if it violates a teacher's religious beliefs. Failure to do so will no doubt be viewed as discrimination, and grounds for disciplinary action against the teacher. The student's chosen pronouns could include not only he/him/his and she/her/hers, but also gender-neutral pronouns such as ze/hir/hirs and they/them/their. Students nationwide will likely be the sole arbiters of their transgender status as the Equality Act provides no guidance for schools. The student's unilateral assertion of their "gender identity" will likely be the controlling criteria.

School curriculum could promote sexual orientation and "gender identity" ideology, if implementation follows the path of the Civil Rights Act. **Antagonism and hostility against the Judeo-Christian belief that God created us male and female will be pervasive throughout the entire public school system.**

**Parental Rights.** With regard to health care, there is an underlying assumption in the Equality Act's nondiscrimination provision that puberty-blockers, cross-sex hormones, and surgery transition are standard treatments. Parents who decline these treatments could potentially have their children taken away from them by the state, as has already happened in Ohio. However, a body of medical research indicates that these treatments have long-range damaging consequences for children.

**Expand Access to Abortion.** In effect, the Equality Act will be used to demand that doctors who are Christian and/or morally-opposed to abortion must perform abortions. This act also puts at risk the continued legality of governmental prohibitions on abortion funding.

For the sake of our nation's children, parents, and schools, and the protection of innocent human life, please vote against the Equality Act.

Sincerely,

Susan T. Muskett, J.D., President, Pro-Family Women