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**National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education
Supports Department of Education's New Title IX Athletics Guidance**

WASHINGTON – The National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education applauds the U.S. Department of Education for issuing new Title IX guidance. Today's guidance rescinds the controversial 2005 Additional Clarification of Intercollegiate Athletics Policy: Three-Part Test — Part Three, which created a major loophole through which schools could evade their Title IX obligations. The 2005 clarification allowed schools to rely solely on responses—and non-responses—to e-mail surveys in order to prove that they were meeting female students' interests in athletics.

“The National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education is very supportive of the new guidance,” said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. “This guidance, along with AAUW's advocacy and programs such as Know the Score, which is designed to engage citizens in monitoring Title IX compliance, will continue to help strengthen Title IX.”

“We applaud the Department of Education for putting the teeth back in Title IX,” said Marcia D. Greenberger, co-president of the National Women's Law Center. “But there is much more work to be done. We call on the department to vigorously enforce Title IX to ensure that female students receive equal athletic opportunities at both the college and secondary school levels.”

Girls thrive when they participate in sports. Statistics show that girls who play sports are less likely to get pregnant, drop out of school, do drugs, smoke, or develop mental illness. In addition, the benefits of playing sports stay with women for many years to come. For example, 80 percent of women identified as key leaders in Fortune 500 companies participated in sports while growing up, and a recent study found that women who played sports as children had a lower obesity rate even 20 to 25 years later in life. For these reasons and more, the coalition will continue to be one of the leading organizations advocating for Title IX.

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The National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education is a nonprofit coalition of more than 40 organizations dedicated to improving educational opportunities for women and girls. AAUW is the chair of the coalition, and the National Women's Law Center is the vice chair of the coalition.