### Betsy DeVos Appears To Be A Project 2025 Thought Leader, With Over \$1.5 Million In Grants To Project 2025 Advisory Board Groups And A Manifesto—In Part Written By Her Former Staff—That Echoes Her Policy Views

**SUMMARY:** Former U.S. Secretary of Education <u>Betsy DeVos</u>, who served in the Trump administration, is closely tied to <u>Project 2025</u>, the far-right's proposal to dismantle the federal government and institute an authoritarian agenda.

A new Accountable.US review found that in 2022, the Dick and Betsy DeVos Family Foundation — the charitable foundation of Betsy DeVos and her husband — granted over \$1.5 million dollars to groups on the <u>Project 2025 Advisory Board</u>:

- \$650,000 to the Defense of Freedom Institute for Policy Studies
- \$625,000 to the Mackinac Center
- \$260,000 to the Claremont Institute
- \$25,000 to the Young America's Foundation

Upon closer investigation, the DeVos' influence on Project 2025 is undeniable. Their <u>\$650,000</u> grant to the Defense of Freedom Institute (DFI) accounted for nearly 40% of the group's annual revenue and almost exactly covered the <u>salaries</u> of DFI's four highest paid employees. The two founders of the DeVos-funded Defense of Freedom Institute, Robert Eitel and Jim Blew, contributed to Project 2025's extreme plans for the Department of Education (ED), which would dismantle and radically remake the department altogether. Some of the most egregious recommendations are:

- Dismantle the Department of Education and severely limit the executive branch's role in education policy.
- Shift the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights to the Justice Department and limiting enforcement actions exclusively to litigation matters.
- Require the U.S. Attorney General to approve Department of Education regulations on civil rights issues.
- Roll back regulations related to nonbinary students, which it claims could negatively impact Title IX enforcement and harm faith-based institutions.
- Create a new government corporation to manage the federal student loan portfolio, instead of ED's Office of Federal Student Aid.

Those very policy recommendations echo Betsy DeVos' extreme views. At a July 2022 summit hosted by Project 2025 advisory board member group Moms for Liberty, <u>DeVos said the Department of Education</u> <u>should be abolished</u>. In April 2024, DeVos said of the Biden administration's Title IX rewrite that it "<u>position[s]</u> <u>the law to actually harm women by extending the definition of biological sex to include gender identity</u>." In December 2019, Secretary DeVos proposed federal student loans to be managed by "<u>a stand-alone</u> <u>government corporation, run by a professional, expert and apolitical board of governors</u>," instead of by ED's Office of Federal Student Aid.

In 2022, The Dick And Betsy DeVos Family Foundation — The Charitable Foundation Of Trump Administration Education Secretary Betsy DeVos And Her Husband — Granted Over \$1.5 Million Dollars To Groups That Are On Project 2025's Advisory Board.

<u>The Dick And Betsy DeVos Family Foundation Is The Charitable Foundation Of</u> <u>Trump Administration Education Secretary Betsy DeVos And Her Husband</u> <u>Former Amway CEO Dick DeVos.</u>

The Dick And Betsy DeVos Family Foundation Is The Charitable Foundation Of Trump Administration Education Secretary Betsy DeVos And Her Husband Former Amway CEO Dick DeVos. "In response to the financial blessing they have received, Dick and Betsy DeVos launched their foundation in 1989 as a vehicle for charitable giving." [Dick and Betsy DeVos Family Foundation, accessed <u>5/29/24</u>]

- Betsy DeVos Served As The U.S. Secretary Of Education Under The Trump Administration. "Betsy DeVos serves as the 11th U.S. Secretary of Education. She was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on February 7, 2017 after being nominated by President Donald J. Trump." [U.S. Department of Education, <u>6/27/19]</u>
- Dick DeVos Was The President Of Amway From 1993 To 2002 Before Joining Its Board Of Directors. "Prior to joining the Board of Directors at Amway, DeVos served as President of the company from 1993 to 2002 and held responsibility for all aspects of Amway's operations in 50 countries and six continents." [Amway, accessed <u>5/29/24</u>]

### In Its 2022 990, The Dick And Betsy DeVos Family Foundation Disclosed Grants Totalling Over \$1.5 Million Dollars To Project 2025 Advisory Board Groups, Including Defense of Freedom Institute, Mackinac Center, The Claremont Institute, And Young America's Foundation.

In Its 2022 990 Disclosure, The Dick And Betsy DeVos Family Foundation Gave Grants Totalling Over A Million Dollars To Project 2025 Advisory Board Groups.

Grantee	Amount
Defense of Freedom Institute for Policy Studies	\$650,000
Mackinac Center	\$125,000
Mackinac Center	\$500,000*
The Claremont Institute	\$60,000
The Claremont Institute	\$200,000
Young America's Foundation	\$25,000
Total:	\$1,560,000

[Dick And Betsy Devos Family Foundation 990 Form, <u>2022</u>] \*This grant was approved in 2022 for future payment.

• Defense Of Freedom Institute Is On The Project 2025 Advisory Board.



[Project 2025 Advisory Board, accessed 5/29/24]

• Mackinac Center Is On The Project 2025 Advisory Board.



[Project 2025 Advisory Board, accessed 5/29/24]

• The Claremont Institute Is On The Project 2025 Advisory Board.



[Project 2025 Advisory Board, accessed 5/29/24]

• Young America's Foundation Is On The Project 2025 Advisory Board.



[Project 2025 Advisory Board, accessed 5/29/24]

The Two Founders Of The DeVos-Funded Defense Of Freedom Institute, Robert Eitel And Jim Blew – Who Worked For Betsy DeVos During The Trump Administration – Contributed To Project 2025's Extreme Plans For The Department Of Education (ED), Which Would Abolish ED Altogether.

<u>The Two Founders Of The DeVos-Funded Defense of Freedom Institute, Robert</u> <u>Eitel and Jim Blew Contributed To Project 2025's Extreme Plans For The</u> <u>Department Of Education.</u>

In 2022, The Dick And Betsy DeVos Family Foundation Granted \$650,000 To The Defense Of Freedom Institute, Which Accounted For 39% Of The Organization's Revenue And Almost Exactly Covered Its Executives' Salaries.

In 2022, The Dick And Betsy DeVos Family Foundation Granted \$650,000 To The Defense Of Freedom Institute For Policy Studies For "General Operating." In 2022, The Dick And Betsy DeVos Family Foundation granted \$650,000 to the Defense of Freedom Institute for Policy Studies for "general operating." [Dick And Betsy Devos Family Foundation 990 Form, <u>2022</u>]

The \$650,000 Grant From The Dick And Betsy DeVos Foundation To The Defense Of Freedom Institute Accounted For 39% Of The Institute's Total Revenue.

- In 2022, The Dick And Betsy DeVos Family Foundation Granted \$650,000 To The Defense Of Freedom Institute For Policy Studies For "General Operating." In 2022, The Dick And Betsy DeVos Family Foundation granted \$650,000 to the Defense of Freedom Institute for Policy Studies for "general operating." [Dick And Betsy Devos Family Foundation 990 Form, 2022]
- In 2022, The Defense Of Freedom Institute's Total Revenue Was \$1,671,990.

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<b>K</b> Forr	n of o	organization: 🗹 Corporation 🗌 Trust 🗌 Association 🗌 Other 🕨	L Year of formation: 2021 M State of legal domicile: VA							
Pa	art I	Summary								
nce	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: TO PROVIDE THOUGHTFUL, CONSERVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO THE CHALLENGES PRESENTED BY EDUCATION, WORKFORCE, LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT ISSUES.									
c Governance	23	Check this box ►		3	3					
Activities &	4	Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b) .	4	3						
	5	Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2022 (Part V, line 2a) $\$ .	5	7						
	6	Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6							
	7a	Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	(						
	Ь	Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, Part I, line 11	7b							
			Prior Year	Current Year						
a,	8	Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	1,400,0	1,671,671						
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AA	10	Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d )		26	319 0					
-	11	Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)								
	12	Total revenue-add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1,400,02	,026 1,671,99						
	13	Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)			C					
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		[ProPublica, Defense of Freedom Instite	ute, <u>10/31/23</u> ]							

In 2022, The Defense Of Freedom Institute's Executive Compensation Accounted For \$635,482.

U Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee.

<b>(A)</b> Name and title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation
	for related organizations below dotted line)	Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee;	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former	(W-2/1099- MISC/1099- NEC)	(W-2/1099- MISC/1099- NEC)	from the organization and related organizations
(1) ROBERT S EITEL	55.00									
President / Sec	. 0.00			х				239,583	0	7,031
(2) PAUL R MOORE	40.00									
SENIOR COUNSEL	0.00							148,607	0	11,524
(3) CHRIS J MCCCAGHREN	40.00									
SENIOR FELLOW	0.00							127,500	0	0
(4) JIM BLEW	30.00									
VP / Treasurer	0.00			х				119,792	0	3,516
(5) NATE BAILEY	2.00	x						0	0	0
Chairman	0.00				<u> </u>					ļ

[ProPublica, Defense of Freedom Institute, 10/31/23]

### Project 2025 Contributor, Defense Of Freedom Institute President, And DeVos Education Department Alum Bob Eitel Was An Executive At Two Companies That Operated For-Profit Colleges.

#### Project 2025 Credited Bob Eitel With Contributing To The Department Of Education Chapter.

"AUTHOR'S NOTE: The preparation of this chapter was a collective enterprise of individuals involved in the 2025 Presidential Transition Project. All contributors to this chapter are listed at the front of this volume, but Jonathan Butcher, Bob Eitel, Jim Blew, Diane Auer Jones, Erin Valdez, Andrew Gillen, and Max Eden deserve special mention. The author alone assumes responsibility for the content of this chapter, and no views expressed herein should be attributed to any other individual." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 361, 2023]

**Eitel "Is A Co-Founder And President Of DFI."** "Bob is a co-founder and President of DFI. He previously served as Senior Counselor to the Secretary of Education from 2017 through 2020 and Deputy General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Education from 2005 until 2009." [Defense Of Freedom Institute, accessed 5/30/24]

**Eitel "Previously Served As Senior Counselor To The Secretary Of Education From 2017 Through 2020."** "Bob is a co-founder and President of DFI. He previously served as Senior Counselor to the Secretary of Education from 2017 through 2020 and Deputy General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Education from 2005 until 2009." [Defense Of Freedom Institute, accessed <u>5/30/24</u>]

**Bob Eitel Previously Was In Charge Of Regulatory Affairs For Two Companies That Ran For-Profit Colleges.** "Bob Eitel was vice president for regulatory legal services at Bridgepoint Education Inc., an operator of for-profit colleges, during federal investigations into the company. He was also vice president of regulatory operations for another for-profit college operator, Career Education Corporation, and was director of its political action committee." [ProPublica, accessed <u>4/17/24</u>]

Project 2025 Contributor, Defense Of Freedom Institute Co-Founder, And DeVos Education Department Alum Jim Blew Was A National Leader Of StudentsFirst And The Alliance For School Choice.

### Project 2025 Credited Jim Blew With Contributing To The Department Of Education Chapter.

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**Blew "Is A Co-Founder Of DFI."** Jim is a co-founder of DFI. Before his Senate confirmation as the Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development at the U.S. Department of Education under Secretary Betsy DeVos, he worked in education reform at the state level for more than 20 years." [Defense Of Freedom Institute, accessed <u>5/30/24</u>]

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**Blew Was National President Of Studentsfirst And National Director Of The Alliance For School Choice.** "Jim is a co-founder of DFI. Before his Senate confirmation as the Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development at the U.S. Department of Education under Secretary Betsy DeVos, he worked in education reform at the state level for more than 20 years. Among other leadership roles, he was the national president of StudentsFirst and the national director of the Alliance for School Choice. He also helped guide the education reform investments of the Walton Family Foundation for nearly a decade until 2014. Before committing himself full-time to education reform, Jim worked at political and communications firms in New York and California. He holds a bachelor's degree from Occidental College and a master's in business administration from the Yale School of Management." [Federalist Society, accessed <u>4/17/24</u>]

# Project 2025's Policy Proposals Would Dismantle And Radically Remake The Department Of Education.

Project 2025 Recommends The Next Conservative President Dismantle The Department Of Education And Severely Limit The Executive Branch's Role In Education Policy.

**Project 2025 Calls For The Abolition Of The Department Of Education.** "Federal education policy should be limited and, ultimately, the federal Department of Education should be eliminated." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 319, <u>2023</u>]

• Project 2025 Said The Next Conservative Administration Should Work With Congress To "Reform, Eliminate, Or Move The Department's Programs And Offices" To Other Agencies. "To improve educational opportunities for all Americans, the next Administration should work with Congress to pass a Department of Education Reorganization Act to reform, eliminate, or move the department's programs and offices to appropriate agencies." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 325, 2023]

**Project 2025 Recommends "Liquidating" The Department Of Education.** "Current Laws Relating to the Department of Education That Require Repeal In order to fully wind down the Department of Education, Congress must pass and the President must sign into law a Department of Education Reorganization Act (or Liquidating Authority Act) to direct the executive branch on how to devolve the agency as a stand-alone Cabinet-level department. Congress should pass and the next President should sign a Department of Education Reorganization Act." "Additional Bureaus and Offices For those attorneys, accountants, experts, and specialists in the department's remaining offices subject to closure whose positions might nevertheless be a key component of serving the mission—positions that might include the Office of the Secretary/Deputy Secretary, Office of the Undersecretary, Office of the General Counsel, Office of the Inspector General, Office of Finance and Operations, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Office of Communications and Outreach, and Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs—the opportunity to join other agencies based on their expertise

and the needs of other agencies should be made available. For example, OGC higher education lawyers would join the newly independent Federal Student Aid Office or the Department of Labor, and OGC civil rights attorneys would join DOJ. These positions must first be determined to serve a continued mission need prior to being transferred. Attorneys, accountants, experts, and specialists in the department's remaining offices subject to closure, and whose positions are indispensable to serving the mission, should have the opportunity to join other agencies." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 330, <u>2023</u>]

Project 2025 Calls For Block-Granting Title I Funding For Low-Income Students To The States And Ultimately Shifting Responsibility For This Funding To The States.

Project 2025 Calls For Reducing The Number Of Programs Managed By Office Of Elementary And Secondary Education (OESE). "Reduce the number of programs managed by OESE, and transfer some remaining programs to other federal agencies." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 325, 2023]

 Project 2025 Calls For Transferring Title I, Part A Funding For Low Income School Districts To The Department Of Health And Human Services, And Turned Into A "No-Strings-Attached Formula Block Grant." "Transfer Title I, Part A, which provides federal funding for lower-income school districts, to the Department of Health and Human Services, specifically the Administration for Children and Families. It should be administered as a no-strings-attached formula block grant." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 325, 2023]

Project 2025 Recommends Shifting "Revenue Responsibility For Title I Funding To The States Over A **10-Year Period."** "Restore revenue responsibility for Title I funding to the states over a 10-year period." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 326, <u>2023</u>]

*Project 2025 Claims That Federal Education Bureaucracy Fostered State Education Bureaucracies Around The Country.* 

Project 2025 Asserts That Federal Education Bureaucracy Has Spurred Similar State Education Bureaucracies Throughout The Country. "Additionally, the department has created a 'shadow' department of education operating in states across the country. Federal mandates, programs, and proclamations have spurred a hiring spree among state education agencies, with more than 48,000 employees currently on staff in state agencies across the country. Those employees are more than 10 times the number of employees (4,400) at the federal Department of Education, and their jobs largely entail reporting back to Washington. Research conducted by The Heritage Foundation's Jonathan Butcher finds that the federal government funds 41 percent of the salary costs of state education agencies." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 323, 2023]

Project 2025 Asserts, Without Evidence, That Federal Education Programs Contribute To State And Local "Bureaucratic Bloat" In States And Local School Districts. "The labyrinthian nature of federal education programs—convoluted funding formulas, competitive grant applications, reporting requirements, etc.—has likely contributed to the considerable bureaucratic bloat in state and local school districts across the country and is one of the key areas of needed reform." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 325, <u>2023</u>]

Project 2025 Proposes Shifting The Department Of Education's Office For Civil Rights To The Justice Department And Limiting Enforcement Actions Exclusively To Litigation Matters.

Project 2025 Calls For Moving The Department Of Education's Office For Civil Rights To The Justice Department And Limiting Enforcement "Only Through Litigation." "Office for Civil Rights (OCR) OCR should move to the Department of Justice. The federal government has an essential responsibility to enforce civil rights protections, but Washington should do so through the Department of Justice and federal courts. The OCR at DOJ should be able to enforce only through litigation." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 330, 2023]

## *Project 2025 Proposes Requiring The U.S. Attorney General To Approve Department Of Education Regulations On Civil Rights Issues.*

**Project 2025 Calls For Requiring The Department Of Education To Obtain Approval Of New Regulation From The U.S. Attorney General.** "NEW POLICIES/REGULATIONS THAT REQUIRE COORDINATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES AND/OR THE WHITE HOUSE The department must coordinate any rulemaking with the White House, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), DOJ, and other agencies that share responsibility with the department in the administration or enforcement of statute, such as Titles VI and IX. Moreover, regarding regulations arising under civil rights laws administered by the department, Executive Order 12550 requires the Attorney General to approve final regulations; the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights must approve notices of proposed rulemaking." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 359, 2023]

### Project 2025 Calles The NEA A "Demonstrably Radical Special Interest Group That Overwhelmingly Supports Left-Of-Center Policies And Policymakers."

Project 2025 Calls On Congress To Withdraw The National Education Association's Federal Charter, Calling The Organization A "Demonstrably Radical Special Interest Group That Overwhelmingly Supports Left-Of-Center Policies And Policymakers." "For nearly 250 years, Congress has incorporated public and private institutions, including banks, the District of Columbia's city government, and other organizations that federal officials deem to be conducting operations in the public interest. Such charters offer a certain status to organizations, often viewed as a 'seal of approval' according to one Congressional Research Service report, which can help these organizations in their fundraising and other advocacy efforts. When the nation's largest teacher association, the National Education Association (NEA), cites its federal charter, it lends the NEA a level of significance and suggests an effectiveness that is not supported by evidence. In fact, the NEA and the nation's other large teacher union, the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), use litigation and other efforts to block school choice and advocate for additional taxpayer spending in education. They also lobbied to keep schools closed during the pandemic. All of these positions run contrary to robust research evidence showing positive outcomes for students from education choice policies; there is no conclusive evidence that more taxpayer spending on schools improves student outcomes; and evidence finds that keeping schools closed to in-person learning resulted in negative emotional and academic outcomes for students. Furthermore, the union promotes radical racial and gender ideologies in schools that parents oppose according to nationally representative surveys. Congress should rescind the National Education Association's congressional charter and remove the false impression that federal taxpayers support the political activities of this special interest group. This move would not be unprecedented, as Congress has rescinded the federal charters of other organizations over the past century. The NEA is a demonstrably radical special interest group that overwhelmingly supports left-of-center policies and policymakers." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 341-342, 2023]

• Project 2025 Calls On Congress To Hold Hearings On How Much "Federal Taxpayer Money The NEA Has Used For Radical Causes Favoring A Single Political Party." "Members should conduct hearings to determine how much federal taxpayer money the NEA has used for radical causes favoring a single political party." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 341-342, <u>2023</u>]

### Project 2025 Proposes Rolling Back Federal Regulations On Charter Schools To Expand School Choice.

**Project 2025 Calls For Rolling Back Federal Regulations On Charter Schools.** "Charter School Grant Programs Congress first authorized the Charter School Program (CSP) in 1994 [Title X, Part C of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended, 20 U.S.C. § 8061 et seq. (1994)]. It most recently reauthorized the program in 2015 as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act. On March 14, 2022, the department published a notice concerning proposed priorities, requirements, definitions, and grant selection criteria relating to the award of federal grants to applicants in CSP. This proposal increases the federal footprint in the charter school sector by ignoring statute and adding to the list of requirements imposed on charter schools. The new Administration must take immediate steps to rescind the new requirements and lessen the federal restrictions on charter schools." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 331, 2023]

*Project 2025 Proposes Privatizing Educational Loan Lending, Allowing Market Forces To Influence Borrowing.* 

**Project 2025 Calls On The Federal Government To Privatize Education Loan Lending.** "Although student loans and grants should ultimately be restored to the private sector (or, at the very least, the federal government should revisit its role as a guarantor, rather than direct lender) federal postsecondary education investments should bolster economic growth, and recipient institutions should nourish academic freedom and embrace intellectual diversity." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 320, <u>2023</u>]

Project 2025 Calls For "Returning To A System In Which Private Lenders, Backed By Government Guarantees, Would Compete To Offer Student Loans, Saying The Federal Government "Does Not Have The Proper Incentives To Make Sound Lending Decisions." "The federal government does not have the proper incentives to make sound lending decisions, so the new Administration should consider returning to a system in which private lenders, backed by government guarantees, would compete to offer student loans, including subsidized and unsubsidized, loans." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 340, 2023]

**Project 2025 Endorses Allowing "Market Prices And Signals To Influence Educational Borrowing."** "The federal government does not have the proper incentives to make sound lending decisions, so the new Administration should consider returning to a system in which private lenders, backed by government guarantees, would compete to offer student loans, including subsidized and unsubsidized, loans. This would allow for market prices and signals to influence educational borrowing, introducing consumer-driven accountability into higher education." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 340-341, 2023]

Project 2025 Calls On The Next Conservative Administration To Privatize "All Lending Programs" To "Allow For Market Prices And Signals To Influence Educational Borrowing." "The new Administration should consider: Privatizing all lending programs, including subsidized, unsubsidized, and PLUS loans (both Grad and Parent). This would allow for market prices and signals to influence educational borrowing, introducing consumer-driven accountability into higher education. Pell grants should retain their current voucher-like structure." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 353, <u>2023</u>]

### Project 2025 Proposes A New Government Corporation Made From The Office Of Federal Student Aid And Turn The Treasury Department Into A Collections Agency.

Project 2025 Calls For Reversing The "Student Loan Federalization Of 2010" And Spinning Off The Office Of Federal Student Aid Into A "New Government Corporation With Professional Governance And Management." "Office of Federal Student Aid (FSA) The next Administration should completely reverse the student loan federalization of 2010 and work with Congress to spin off FSA and its student loan obligations to a new government corporation with professional governance and management." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 327, 2023]

**Project 2025 Proposes A Government Corporation For Federal Student Loans With Leadership Appointed By The President And Confirmed By The Senate.** "With a statutory charge that it preserve the federal student loan portfolio for the benefit of the taxpayers and students, this new entity would be (1) professionally governed by an agency head and board of trustees appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate; (2) funded with annual appropriations from Congress; and (3) operated by professional managers. Federal loans would be assigned directly to the Treasury Department, which would manage collections and defaults. The new federal student loan authority would manage the loan portfolio, handle borrower relations, administer loan applications and disbursements, monitor institutional participation and accountability issues, and issue regulations." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 327-330, 2023]

• Project 2025 Calls For Assigning Federal Loans Directly To The Treasury Department, "Which Would Manage Collections And Defaults." "Federal loans would be assigned directly to the Treasury Department, which would manage collections and defaults. The new federal student loan authority would

manage the loan portfolio, handle borrower relations, administer loan applications and disbursements, monitor institutional participation and accountability issues, and issue regulations." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 327-330, <u>2023</u>]

### Project 2025 Recommends Rolling Back Regulations Related To Nonbinary Students, Which It Claims Could Negatively Impact Title IX Enforcement And Harm Faith-Based Institutions.

Project 2025 Calls For Rolling Back Regulations Requiring The Office Of Civil Rights To Collect Data On Nonbinary Students, Which It Argued Could Impair Title IX Enforcement. "Civil Rights Data Collection On December 13, 2021, OCR published a notice concerning proposed revisions to OCR's Mandatory Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) in which it proposed to create and collect data on a new 'nonbinary' sex category (in addition to the current 'male' or 'female' sex categories) and to retire data collection that indicates the number of (1) high school–level interscholastic athletics sports in which only male and female students participate, (2) high school–level athletics teams in which only male or female students participate, and (3) participants on high school–level interscholastic athletics sports teams in which only male or only female students participate. These poorly conceived changes are contrary to law, fail to take account of student privacy interests and statutory protections favoring parental rights under the Protection of Pupils Rights Amendment, and jettison longstanding data collections that assist in the enforcement of Title IX. The new Administration must quickly move to rescind these changes, which add a new 'nonbinary' sex category to OCR'S data collection and issue a new CRDC that will collect data directly relevant to OCR's statutory enforcement authority." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 331-332, 2023]

Project 2025 Calls For Rolling Back Biden Administration Rules Related To Title IX, Which It Claims "Trample Women's And Girls' Athletic Opportunities [...] Threaten Free Speech And Religious Liberty, And Erode Parental Rights In Elementary And Secondary Education Regarding Sensitive Issues Of Sex." "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance (Title IX) With its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published on July 12, 2022, the Biden Education Department seeks to gut the hard-earned rights of women with its changes to the department's regulations implementing Title IX, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities. Instead, the Biden Administration has sought to trample women's and girls' athletic opportunities and due process on campus, threaten free speech and religious liberty, and erode parental rights in elementary and secondary education regarding sensitive issues of sex." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 332-333, 2023]

- Project 2025 Calls For Using Regulations And Congressional Action To Define "Sex" In Title IX To "Mean Only Biological Sex Recognized At Birth." "The new Administration should take the following steps: Work with Congress to use the earliest available legislative vehicle to prohibit the department from using any appropriations or from otherwise enforcing any final regulations under Title IX promulgated by the department during the prior Administration. Commence a new agency rulemaking process to rescind the current Administration's Title IX regulations; restore the Title IX regulations promulgated by then-Secretary Betsy DeVos on May 19, 2020; and define 'sex' under Title IX to mean only biological sex recognized at birth. Work with Congress to amend Title IX to include due process requirements; define 'sex' under Title IX to mean only biological sex recognized at birth; and strengthen protections for faith-based educational institutions, programs, and activities." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 332-333, 2023]
- Project 2025 Calls For Strengthening "Protections For Faith-Based Educational Institutions, Programs, And Activities" Within Title IX. "Work with Congress to amend Title IX to include due process requirements; define 'sex' under Title IX to mean only biological sex recognized at birth; and strengthen protections for faith-based educational institutions, programs, and activities." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 332-333, <u>2023</u>]

Project 2025 Recommends A Ban On Schools Using Names Other Than What Was On A Student's Birth Certificate Or Pronouns Other Than What Are Typical For A Student's Sex As Listed On Their Birth Certificate.

Project 2025 Calls On The Next Conservative Administration To Prohibit School Employees From Using A Student Name Other Than What's Listed On The Student's Birth Certificate, Using A Pronoun For A Student Other Than What Would Be Indicated By The Student's Biological Sex Without Notifying Parents, Or Requiring An Employee To Use A Pronoun Other Than Than What Would Be Indicated By Their Biological Sex If Contrary To The Employee's Religious Or Moral Convictions. "The next Administration should work with Congress to provide an example to state lawmakers by requiring K-12 districts under federal jurisdiction, including Washington, D.C., public schools, Bureau of Indian Education schools, and Department of Defense schools, with legislation stating that: No public education employee or contractor shall use a name to address a student other than the name listed on a student's birth certificate, without the written permission of a student's parents or guardians. No public education employee or contractor shall use a pronoun in addressing a student that is different from that student's biological sex without the written permission of a student's parents or guardians. No public institution may require an education employee or contractor to use a pronoun that does not match a person's biological sex if contrary to the employee's or contractor's religious or moral convictions. State lawmakers should use this model and adopt similar provisions for public schools within their borders. Federal lawmakers should not allow public school employees to keep secrets about a child from that child's parents." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 346, 2023

 Project 2025: "Federal Lawmakers Should Not Allow Public School Employees To Keep Secrets About A Child From That Child's Parents." [Project 2025, Chapter 11: Department of Education, p. 346, 2023]

# Betsy DeVos Has Backed Extreme Policy Proposals For The Department Of Education.

At A Conservative Summit In 2022, DeVos Said She Believes The Department Of Education Should Be Abolished.

At A Conservative Summit In 2022, DeVos Said She Believes The Department Of Education Should Be Abolished. "Former Education Secretary Betsy DeVos said at a conservative education summit Saturday that she believes the Department of Education should be abolished, according to the Florida Phoenix." [Axios, 7/17/22]

Betsy DeVos Said She Personally Thinks "The Department Of Education Should Not Exist." "'I
personally think the Department of Education should not exist,' DeVos told the crowd in Tampa, Florida,
per the Phoenix." [Axios, 7/17/22]

In April 2024, Betsy DeVos Said Of The Biden Administration's Title IX Rewrite That It "Position[s] The Law To Actually Harm Women By Extending The Definition Of Biological Sex To Include Gender Identity."

In April 2024, Betsy DeVos Said Of The Biden Administration's Title IX Rewrite That "It Really Does Turn The Tables And Position The Law To Actually Harm Women By Extending The Definition Of Biological Sex To Include Gender Identity." "Title IX as we know it was passed more than 50 years ago, and its sole purpose was to give women equal opportunities and over time the focus of that centered around sports," DeVos told me. 'And with this Biden rewrite, it really does turn the tables and position the law to actually harm women by extending the definition of biological sex to include gender identity." [USA Today, <u>4/28/24</u>]'

In December 2019, Secretary DeVos Proposed For The Federal Student Loan Program To Be Managed By "'A Stand-Alone Government Corporation, Run By A Professional, Expert And Apolitical Board Of Governors,' Instead Of By The Department's Office Of Federal Student Aid."

In December 2019, Secretary DeVos Proposed "Federal Student Loans To Be Operated By 'A Stand-Alone Government Corporation, Run By A Professional, Expert And Apolitical Board Of

**Governors,' Instead Of By The Department's Office Of Federal Student Aid."** "The Trump administration proposed Tuesday to break off the nearly \$1.5 trillion federal student loan portfolio from the Education Department and have it instead be managed by a new independent federal agency. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos pitched the proposal for federal student loans to be operated by 'a stand-alone government corporation, run by a professional, expert and apolitical board of governors,' instead of by the department's Office of Federal Student Aid." [Politico, <u>12/3/19]</u>

In May 2024 Alone, Betsy DeVos Uplifted Social Media Posts From Multiple Project 2025 Advisory Board Groups, Including Independent Women's Forum, Moms For Liberty, And Defense Of Freedom Institute.

Just In The Last Month, Betsy DeVos Has Uplifted Several Social Media Posts From Project 2025 Advisory Board Groups, Including Independent Women's Forum, Moms For Liberty, And Defense Of Freedom Institute.

Betsy DeVos Reposted An Independent Women's Forum X Post About The Group's "Take Back Title IX" Tour.



Betsy DeVos Reposted A Moms For Liberty X Post About A Petition "To Tell The Biden Administration: We Do NOT Co-Parent With The Government! Help Us STOP Biden's Title IX Changes."



#### Betsy DeVos Reposted A Transphobic Defense Of Freedom Institute X Post.



**Defense of Freedom Institute** <a>@DFIPolicy • May 20</a> ••• A boy just stole the girls' 200m track state title in Oregon. If Biden gets his way on #TitleIX, this injustice will happen over and over again, all over the country.



[X, @DFIPolicy, 5/20/24]

Betsy DeVos Reposted Defense Of Freedom Institute X Post About Department Of Education's FAFSA Rollout.



13 Betsy DeVos reposted Defense of Freedom Institute 🧇 @DFIPolicy · May 13 "I just don't understand...what happened?" @SenatorCollins asks @SecCardona regarding @usedgov's failed #FAFSA rollout. Secretary Cardona and his team had more than three years to simplify the FAFSA, but their misplaced priorities harmed students.



[X, @DFIPolicy, 5/13/24]

#### Betsy DeVos Reposted A Transphobic Independent Women's Forum X Post.





Betsy DeVos Reposted Another Transphobic Defense Of Freedom Institute X Post That A Photo Of Her And A Quote From Her Are Featured Prominently In.

