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*“If virtue and knowledge are diffused among the People, they will never be enslav'd.
This will be their great Security.”*
~ **Samuel Adams**

Department of Education Backs Down from Requiring Critical Race Theory in Grant Program

Department of Education Secretary Miguel Cardona took a step back last Friday from a new grant program that required the teaching of Critical Race Theory (CRT) and the 1619 Project. The Department will still pursue creating a federal grant program, but Cardona said the program would not require teaching CRT or the 1619 Project. Cardona [denies](#) the new program ever required that schools teach CRT, stating, “This program, however, has not, does not, and will not dictate or recommend specific curriculum be introduced or taught in classrooms. Those decisions are—and will continue to be—made at the local level.” However, in April when Cardona [proposed](#) the grant, he said that “there is growing acknowledgment of the importance of including, in the teaching and learning of our country’s history, both the consequences of slavery and the significant contributions of Black Americans to our society. This acknowledgment is reflected, for example, in the New York Times’ landmark 1619 Project.” Rep. Virginia Foxx (NC) said the Department of Education’s step back from requiring the teaching of CRT shows that it “changed its approach to grant funding because parents, students, and Republican leaders stood up in defense of our nation’s history and legacy.” The congresswoman is celebrating the Department’s recent decision, but she warned that this does not mean the Biden administration will back down from advancing CRT ideology where it can.

The proposed priorities for the grant program garnered [over 35,000 comments](#), mostly opposing the teaching of CRT in education. Additionally, twenty state attorneys general, led by Indiana’s State Attorney General Todd Rokita, sent the Department of Education a [letter](#) expressing “deep concern” over the proposed priorities, calling them a “thinly veiled attempt at bringing into our states’ classrooms the deeply flawed and controversial teachings of Critical Race Theory and the 1619 Project.” The AACCS also [submitted public comments](#) opposing not just the inclusion of CRT, but also the efforts of the Department to push a particular ideology through a grant program. AACCS Government Relations Director Jamison Coppola recently joined Dr. Keith Wiebe in a [radio interview](#) on Stand in the Gap Radio to discuss the philosophical problems with CRT and how Christian schools should respond to the push for CRT in education. Mr. Coppola emphasized that Christian schools, as academic institutions, must prepare students to recognize that “these are philosophies according to human tradition, they’re full of empty deceit, and they’re according to the spirit of the world,” as described in Colossians 2:8. Mr. Coppola also stressed that students must be prepared to counter fallacious teaching with objective truth that is based on biblical principles.

House Votes to Fund Abortions with Taxpayer Dollars

The House Appropriations Committee voted last week to do away with the Hyde Amendment and allow federal tax dollars to fund abortion. The Hyde Amendment was first passed with strong bipartisan support in 1976 to prohibit taxpayer money from funding abortion. In committee, Rep. Tom Cole (OK) attempted to restore the prohibition on taxpayer funding of abortion with an amendment to the current spending bill, but the

Appropriations Committee led by Democrats voted against the amendment 32-27. The chair of the Appropriations Committee, Rep. Rose DeLauro (CT) [argued](#) that the “Hyde Amendment is a discriminatory policy.” Unsurprisingly, many Republican congressmen opposed the Democrats’ efforts to remove the Hyde Amendment. Rep. Mike Simpson (ID) [argued](#), “If you think more money needs to be put into abortions, if you believe in abortion rights, you have every right to donate your money to organizations . . . that support abortion. What you don’t have a moral right to do is . . . to forcefully take money from my pocket to fund abortions.” The spending bill will now have to make it through the Senate without the Hyde Amendment or any prohibition against taxpayer dollars going toward abortion, and some Republicans believe the bill will not have enough support to pass without the Hyde Amendment. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (KY) [accused](#) the President of flip-flopping on the issue: “For decades, nearly his entire career, then-Senator Joe Biden was a reliable supporter of Hyde protections. But a couple of years ago on the Presidential campaign trail, our former colleague changed his tune. He let the demands of the increasingly radical left overcome a principle he had held literally for decades.” (*Written by summer intern Zach Jewell*)

Secretary of Education Cardona Refuses to Answer Question on Gender

In a House Education and Labor Committee [hearing](#), Education Secretary Miguel Cardona refused to answer Rep. Mary Miller’s (IL) question on how many genders exist. Rep. Miller referenced the Department’s newly released resource entitled ["Confronting Anti-LGBTQI+ Harassment in Schools"](#) which contains a section describing hypothetical situations of various types of harassment the Office of Civil Rights can investigate. Rep. Miller pointed to one of the examples of harassment which describes an elementary teacher who tells the class that only two genders exist after a student claims to identify as nonbinary and asked Secretary Cardona for clarification on the number of genders. He responded by saying, “So, I know what you’re asking, but I’m going to get to the root of what you’re asking. I feel very strongly that as educators, it’s our responsibility to protect all students.” The congresswoman pressed him further to which the Secretary responded, “I won’t be answering your question.” Secretary Cardona further [stated](#) his belief that Title IX, the law passed to ban sex discrimination, includes discrimination against LGBT students and, therefore, allows transgender students to participate on sports teams with the gender they identify with rather than their biological gender. In response to the Department’s radical agenda, several states are [advancing legislation](#) to protect female athletes who are losing opportunities because they are being forced to compete against biological males who identify as female. The direct refusal to acknowledge that there are two genders is a clear sign of the Biden administration’s disregard for biological reality and God’s design for human sexuality.

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[Practical Legal Help for Christian Schools: ADF Ministry Alliance](#)

[Promise to America’s Children](#)

[With School Choice Critical Race Theory Wouldn’t Be a Problem](#)