

**WTF IS THE  
RADICAL  
INDOCTRINATION  
EO?**

**SUPPORTING AND  
AFFIRMING  
QUEER AND  
TRANS  
STUDENTS AND  
THE TEACHERS  
WHO TEACH  
THEM**



# What is an executive order (EO)?

Basically, they are signed statements about how the president *wants* the federal government to be *managed*. They can be instructions to federal agencies or requests for reports.

**They are not law.**

Congress could block an order from being fulfilled by removing funding or creating other hurdles.

**Many of Trump's measures are likely to draw Democratic opposition.**

In several major cases, the orders will largely be statements of intent based off campaign promises made by Trump.

There are limits to the power of executive orders:

**Both Congress and the courts can potentially block executive orders.**

There are also legal challenges based on the argument that a president *exceeded his legal authorities*.

# What to know about “ending radical indoctrination in k12 schools” EO

In the purpose section, Donald Trump frames being trans as an "anti-American Ideology" designed to "sow distrust" and "undermine family unity."

It also fronts the **fringe claim** that title IX *MANDATES* discrimination against transgender students.

Definitions: Section e is the only applying to trans youth, but its a doozy...

It says that stopping “Social Transition” is going to be a big part of the EO, and this includes **using a different name, pronouns, bathrooms, and sports.**

This hints that the purpose of the EO will be to target this.

Sec 3(a) says that it is Trump's policy to eliminate federal funding for any school that supports "gender ideology."

Given the definitions section around social transition and other sections, this will likely mean **schools that let trans kids use the bathroom, use their names, etc.**

While the Order directs federal agencies to evaluate and report back on how to limit federal funding as described above, **the Executive Branch has limited authority to put conditions on federal funds.**

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution gives Congress (not the Executive Branch or federal agencies such as the Department of Education) authority over the terms of federal spending in most instances.

The executive branch can't pull funding unilaterally. Under nondiscrimination laws including Title IX and Title VI, the department's office for civil rights would have to investigate allegations, find a violation, and also find that the school is refusing to address the violation.

The department would recommend a funding termination, and there would be a waiting period, during which Congress could override the department's attempt to terminate funds.

School districts can also appeal funding termination decisions.



Sec 3(c): chilling. It directs the Attorney General and state Attorneys General to go after teachers that allow social transition for "sexually exploiting minors" or "practicing medicine without a license."

This is likely going to be used to terrorize school districts and teachers with trans kids, and the kids themselves.

While this and other Executive Orders have caused much uncertainty, threats of prosecution against educators for “unlawfully facilitating the social transition of a minor student” **appear to lack legal foundation in current federal law.**

**This is perhaps his most blatantly illegal EO of the anti-trans ones.**

## **Keep teaching.**

The Education Department, its secretary, and the federal government **have no authority over curriculum matters.**

Within the last decade, Congress tightened up this very language to make clear that the states are fully in control of curriculum and academic standards.

TLDR:

It will depend on teachers and school systems complying in advance...

**Don't do it. Do not comply.**

Shulz, B. (2025). What's in Trump's New Executive Orders on Indoctrination and School Choice. Education Week.

Reed, E. (2025). [erininthemorning.com](https://erininthemorning.com)

# Actions: call/write your representatives

**5calls.org** regularly updates information on progressive issues, provides scripts, and help you identify who you need to call from your reps to Attorney General, etc.



Hi, my name is [NAME] and I'm a constituent from [CITY, ZIP]. I'm calling to urge [REP/SEN NAME] oppose any and all anti-transgender legislation including any bills restricting gender-affirming care for trans youth, banning trans athletes from participating in sports based on their gender, or preventing transgender people from using bathrooms as they see fit. [OPTIONAL: You can find the status of anti-transgender legislation in your state at The trans legislation tracker and give specific bill numbers to oppose.] Thank you for your time and consideration.

IF LEAVING VOICEMAIL: Please leave your full street address to ensure your call is tallied.

## **More sample scripts:**

Hi, my name is [your name], and I'm a constituent from [your city & zip code].

I'm calling to urge [rep's name] to oppose any and all anti-transgender executive orders, including the order titled "Ending Radical Indoctrination in K-12 Schooling."

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**For parents/guardians with school-aged children, call or write your school leadership:**

Dear Principal \_\_\_\_\_,

My child, \_\_\_\_\_, is a \_\_\_\_\_ grader at \_\_\_\_\_ and we have loved our time here. I am deeply concerned about President Trump's 1/29 Executive Order, "Ending Radical Indoctrination in our K-12 Schools". Our school has a diverse student population that includes transgender and gender non-conforming students. Adhering to the guidelines of this executive order would grievously harm these students, betraying the trust of them and their families alike.

Will you please publicly confirm our school's commitment to celebrating, protecting, and respecting all students and their identities, and be clear with the DoE leadership that we need them to resist this attack on students' and teachers' civil rights, human rights, and First Amendment rights? If there are other ways you can think of to stand up for our students, please let me know. We're ready to stand with you and our wonderful school.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_

# **Everyone can write/call their local school board:**

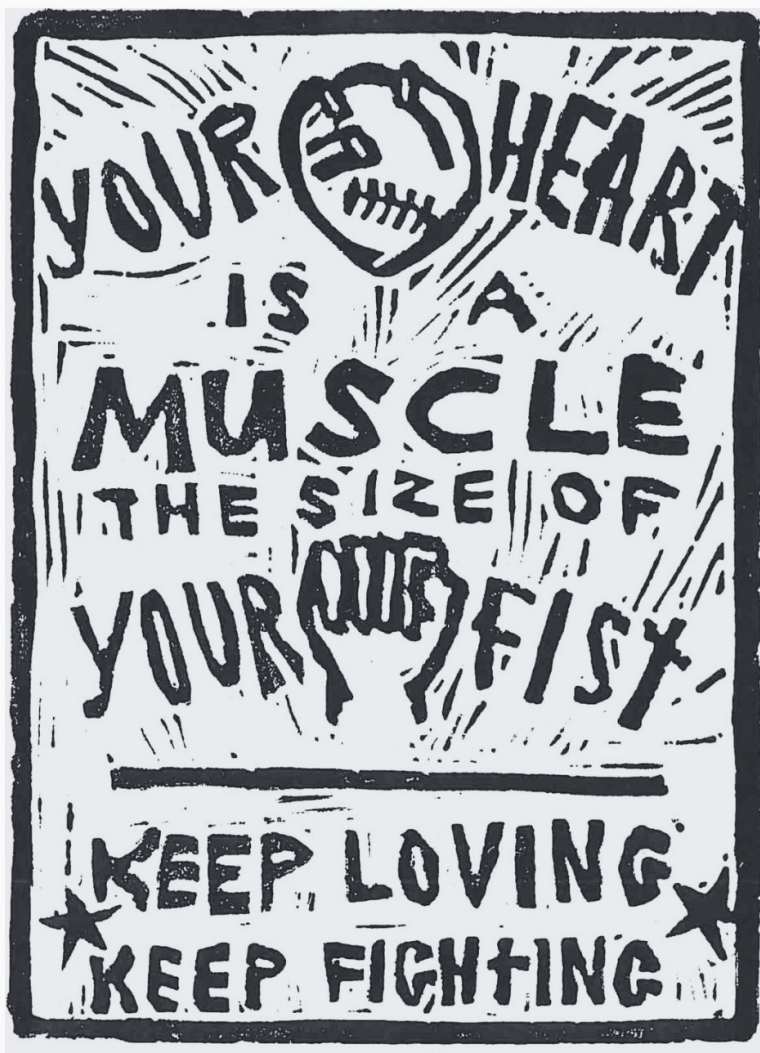
Dear [city/district] School Board  
Representatives,

I am a resident of [city or district] and I am deeply concerned about President Trump's 1/29 Executive Order, "Ending Radical Indoctrination in our K-12 Schools". Our schools have diverse student populations that include transgender and gender non-conforming students. Adhering to the guidelines of this executive order would grievously harm these students, betraying the trust of them and their families alike.

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Sincerely,

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Shout love, whisper love, let love fuel us, sustain us, and bring us joy.  
Be brave, and take care. - Dalia Shevin (2017)