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U.S. District Court Issues Preliminary Injunctive Order Blocking Executive Transgender Rules

With the new school year just beginning, educational institutions have seen yet another shift in the legal landscape regarding transgender rights and Title IX. On Sunday, U.S. Northern District of Texas Judge Reed O'Connor issued an Order preventing the U.S. Department of Education from implementing guidance requiring school districts to allow transgender students to choose which restrooms and locker rooms to use based on their identified gender.

In the Order, Judge O'Connor held that the congressional intent behind Title IX was to use the "plain meaning of the term sex" meaning "the biological and anatomical differences between male and female students as determined by birth." Judge O'Connor also declared that federal executive agencies failed to properly take public input as required during a formal rule-making process.

Although the Order – the latest rendered in a string of litigation regarding sex discrimination and Title IX – applies nationwide, Judge O'Connor also pointed out that states may avoid the impact of the injunction by passing state laws protecting transgender individuals from discrimination based on their gender identity.

The Opinion is available at the following link: [State of Texas v. U.S.](#)