

# September 2024 Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) Meeting Invitation and Newsletter https://womensclearinghouse.org

#### ARE WE READY FOR THE 2024 GENERAL ELECTION?

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 (12:00 noon-1:00 pm ET)

Zoom Meeting Registration Link

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApdumorjwiHtRC2\_MZGFCpNQz79Kah67k5

Experts from the Brennan Center for Justice will cover what we need to know about recent improvements and remaining challenges for voting access, election administration, and security, and the use of mis and disinformation, possible AI interventions, cyber attacks and challenges to counting and certification. Additionally, an expert from the Center for American Progress will discuss how Project 2025 developed by the Heritage Foundation, if adopted by a future administration would fundamentally undermine our representative democracy. In emphasizing women and elections this presenter will provide suggestions for messaging to your family and friends about the threats.

**LIZ HOWARD** is Director of Partner Engagement for the Brennan Center's Elections & Government Program. Her work focuses on election security. Howard regularly comments for television, radio, and print media on issues relating to election security and election administration and has testified before U.S. House Committee on Homeland Security and in a variety of state legislatures. She has also co-authored multiple Brennan Center reports and white papers: *Better Safe Than Sorry (2018), Defending Elections: Federal Funding Needs for State Election Security (2019), Trump-Russia Investigations: A Guide Preparing for Cyberattacks* and *Technical Failures: A Guide for Election Officials (2019).* Prior to joining the Brennan Center, Howard served as deputy commissioner for the Virginia Department of Elections. During her tenure, she coordinated many election administration modernization projects, including the decertification of all paperless voting systems, implementation of the e-Motor Voter program, and adoption of online, paperless absentee ballot applications, for which the department received a Bright Ideas Award at the Harvard Kennedy School. Howard earned her JD from the William & Mary Law School and received the Alumnus of the Year award from the William & Mary Election Law Society.

**ALICE CLAPMAN** is a senior counsel in the Brennan Center's Voting Rights Program, where she works on topics such as mass voter challenges, voter roll purges, voter ID requirements, state voting laws, and election administration. She recently authored *How States Can Prevent Election Subversion in 2024 and Beyond* for the Brennan Center. Before joining the Brennan Center, she litigated reproductive rights cases and did policy work for Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Prior to that, she taught clinics, practiced, and wrote in the field of immigration law and clerked for federal trial and appellate courts. Alice earned her JD from Yale Law School, and her BA from Princeton University.

**COLIN SEEBERGER** a senior adviser for Communications at the Center for American Progress (CAP) will share their messaging research on the threat of Project 2025 to give attendees more tools to effectively communicate. He will focus on the impact of various policies on issues with an acute impact on women and elections. Prior to joining CAP, Seeberger held various roles in public affairs and directed issue advocacy campaigns at Young Invincibles, a young adult policy and advocacy nonprofit organization. He previously worked on the national public affairs team at Berlin Rosen and in the press office of Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA). Seeberger also has a background in research, having worked with Grindstone Research. He studied political management with a concentration in strategic communications at George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management and graduated summa cum laude from Pace University in New York City.

The next CWI Zoom meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2024 at noon ET.

#### Some 2024 Get out the Vote Activities of CWI Member Organizations

The National Women's Health Network: #4Her2024 Get Out the Vote campaign: Sign up for Voter

Empowerment Alerts: https://ncnw.org/eight-state-all-state/. "Check out "How to Vote 101" chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://nwhn.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/How\_to\_vote-101\_NWHN\_Updated\_7\_2\_24.pdf

The National Council of Negro Women has: NCNW Eight State/All State Strategy designed to significantly increase voter turnout, specifically among Black women and young voters ages 17-24. Strategies involve voter registration, canvassing, phone banking, and voter education. https://ncnw.org/eight-state-all-state/

**Feminist Majority.** Vote for Equality 2024 Campaign; <a href="https://jobs.feminist.org/job/posit">https://jobs.feminist.org/job/posit</a> <a href="https://jobs.feminist.org/job/posit">LWVUSions-available-with-vote-for-equality-2024-campaign/</a>

Recruiting campus organizers and coordinators for a student voter mobilization campaign to deliver a massive student vote to advance gender equity, reproductive freedom, gun control, climate change, civil and LGBTQ rights and democracy in Arizona, California, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

### **Other Election Tools from Selected Organizations**

Organization	Website/contact info	Opportunity	Description	
League of Women Voters US LWVUS	vote411.org	One stop-shop for non-partisan information for voters.	Links for registration and information on candidate and ballot initiatives for any US address.	
The Workers Circle	circle.org	Phone banking every Wednesday 7 - 8pm	Voters of color in North Carolina face barriers to the polls. We call Black voters to learn which issues are most important to them, help them make a voting plan, and know the Voter ID they need to cast their ballot.	The Workers Circle works in partnership with the Center for Common Ground and Team Unity North Carolina, a grassroots organization that is educating and mobilizing Black voters in North Carolina. Register to make calls on one or more Wednesdays with us!
		Text banking. Tuesdays, September 24, October 29, 7:00 PM ET	Help Voters Get the ID They Need to Vote	Join our virtual text bank alongside Vote Riders, tailored to individuals of all generations, aimed at educating Florida voters about Voter ID laws and assisting them in obtaining the necessary identification they need to vote.

Center for Common Ground	https://www.cen terforcommongr ound.org/phone banks	Post carding - deadline for mailing to Virginia, Georgia and North Carolina is September 30. Arizona, Florida and Texas can be mailed between October 1 and 15.	writing GOTV messages to Black voters	Write to: Roxane, Nancy, Kim and Susan. They can be reached at rov.dcmv@gmail.com to order supplies and learn the procedure for participating.
VoProPros	info@vopropros.com	Concentrating on Pennsylvania but also working in Nevada and other swing states	Phone calls to inactive voters to prevent their being eliminated from the rolls.	Note: they communicate using Slack which may not be everyone's favorite.
Poll Worker Resources	Poll Worker Resources for Voters   U.S. Election Assistance Commission (eac.gov)	State by State Compendium, Requirements for Serving as a Pollworker (eac.gov)	Key Facts About U.S. Poll Workers, Key facts about US poll workers ahead of the 2024 election   Pew Research Center	
View Election Jobs Near You	Election Jobs (Hiring Now!) - Employment.org			
ReThink Media	https://rethinkmedia.u s1.list- manage.com/subscrib e?u=307726d92ec941 f6b4f544310&id=3e30 5aa083	Weekly listing of Democracy related news articles		
DemCast	https://www.digitaldru mbeat.com/?emci=c8 97c817-095c-ef11- 991a- 6045bddbfc4b&emdi= dbe6561b-185c-ef11- 991a- 6045bddbfc4b&ceid=2 9904014	Democracy messaging resource.	Rallying Americans to help defeat disinformation on social media. DemCast monitors messaging guidance from across the pro-democracy movement and delivers it to you here so you can spread word on social media.	
National Association of Secretaries of State	https://www.nass.org /Can-I-Vote	Answers questions from most states		
Vote.org  Non-partisan, non-profi	Vote.org	Tools to help: Register to Vote, Request mail-in ballot, find polling locations, get election reminders		
Common Cause www.commoncause. org	www.commoncause. org/voting-tools	Register to vote, track your ballot, request absentee ballot, info on state voting laws	Volunteer to be poll monitor Protectthevote.net	

## Update and Review of June 25, 2024 CWI Meeting on "Changes and Challenges in the 2024 Title IX Regulations"

UPDATE: Since the June 25 meeting there has not been much good news on compliance with the Aug. 1, 2024 start date implementing the 2024 Title IX Regulations. In fact, because of temporary injunctions granted in the various litigation challenges against the 2024 regulations, more than half the states, and many individual schools outside of those states, are currently not required to comply with the 2024 Title IX Regulations. Regarding procedures for addressing sex-based harassment, they are only required to comply with the less desirable 2020 Title IX Regulations from the Trump Administration pending further court orders. The Department of Education added information on the specific injunctions to enforcing the Title IX 2024 Regulations to their Fact Sheet on the Implementation of the 2024 Title IX Regulations on July 31, 2024. (See "Fact Sheet: U.S. Department of Education's 2024 Title IX Final rule Overview" (https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/t9-final-rule-factsheet.pdf). The Clearinghouse on Women's Issues and many other organizations have signed on to 'National Women's Law Center's Amicus Brief on August 13, 2024 (Defending Trans and Nonbinary Students' Rights under Title IX (https://nwlc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/2024.08.13-NWLC-Amicus.pdf). There is still hope for full restoration of the implementation of the Title IX 2024 Regulations as the temporary injunctions are reviewed by the Court of Appeals. For example, even if the disastrous Congressional Review Act discussed by Shiwali, passes both the House and the Senate, President Biden would veto it.

**REVIEW**: In the June meeting we had an excellent discussion of the long-awaited 2024 Title IX Regulations from the U.S. Department of Education which are being attacked primarily because they have clarified anti-sex discrimination provisions relating to LBGTQI+ students, but also because they restore protections against sexbased harassment in schools and clarify accommodations that schools need to provide for students who terminate their pregnancies. As we celebrated the 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of Title IX, our experts helped us understand the key changes in the 2024 Title IX Regulations and how to make sure that they are implemented as planned despite the political and legal challenges.



**Jeanette Lim Esbrook,** a former Acting Assistant Secretary for the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights and CWI's Vice President for Legal Affairs, served as Moderator and provided a brief history of Title IX Regulations and how she was involved in the development of the regulations on sexual assault and harassment.



Rebecca Amadi, Federal Policy Manager, GLSEN, which works to ensure that LBGTQI+ students are able to learn and grow in a school environment free from bullying and harassment, described the justifications for and objections against the non-discrimination provisions relating to gender identity and sexual orientation in the 2024 Title IX Rules. She discussed why they were included in the Rules (including the Supreme Court Title VII Bostock decision), what they cover, and note that the promised Title IX Athletic Rules have not been released.



Shiwali Patel, Director of Safe and Inclusive Schools & Senior Counsel, National Women's Law Center, who formerly worked in the Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, described much of the current opposition to the 2024 Title IX Rule such as House Joint Resolution 165 and its companion Congressional Review Act in the Senate which would undo the new Title IX Rules as well as the litigation by 26 states and others against the April 2024 Title IX Regulations.



Karen Truszkowski, representing Stop Sexual Assault in Schools (SSAIS) is an SSAIS Officer and attorney who represents K-12 and higher education Title IX plaintiffs. She discussed how the Title IX 2020 Regulations were changed in 2024 relating to the procedures to be used in handling complaints of sexual assault and harassment and to provide more explicit protections and support to pregnant and parenting students. She also discussed the roles of all school employees in notifying Title IX Coordinators of potential Title IX infractions. She described how she welcomed improvements in the 2024 Regulations such as the change to include severe or (not and) pervasive sexual harassment and removing the requirement for cross examination.

Some of the follow-up questions included: What are penalties for Non Compliance with Title IX? Jeanette said that contrary to myth, Federal funds had been withdrawn in at least one case and Shiwali and Karen pointed out that fines are also common in some cases. Sue Klein pointed out that the 2024 regulations did not mandate Title IX Coordinators in each k-12 school but they did require a Title IX Coordinator in each school district and postsecondary institution and they encouraged the Coordinators to designate other Coordinators and officials to help with Title IX responsibilities.

We strongly recommend that you view the YouTube of this entire meeting to fully benefit from this entertaining and informative meeting by going to: <a href="mailto:June2024">June2024</a> – "Changes and Challenges in the 2024 Title IX Regulations"

[https://youtu.be/mzdCJqTyrfE]

Shiwali Patel from the National Woman's Law Center also shared their <u>Summary and chart of the Title IX rule</u> changes that NWLC developed. (https://nwlc.org/resource/bidens-new-title-ix-rule-fact-sheet-and-chart/)

CWI's newsletter is endowed in loving memory of our previous longtime editor, Roslyn Kaiser

Newsletter edited by Sue Klein

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