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IDRA Education CAFE™ Advocacy Network

Virtual Event

Congressional Briefing on the Federal Corporal Punishment Ban

Learn why the **Protecting Our Students in Schools Act** is so important!

Wednesday, June 30, 2021
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm ET

Register:
<https://idra.news/CPbriefing>

Co-hosted by: **IDRA**
Institutes for Democracy and Restorative Education

You're invited to a

Virtual Briefing in Support of the Proposed "Protecting Our Students in Schools Act"

IDRA is excited to co-host a virtual briefing on the [Protecting our Students in Schools Act](#), the federal bill that would ban corporal punishment in schools that receive federal funding and create a grant program for schools to adopt culturally-sustaining educational practices.

The event will feature remarks from U.S. Representative A. Donald McEachin and experts, including IDRA EAC-South Director Dr. Paula Johnson, who will speak about the harms of corporal punishment and the benefits of education practices that value all students and build safer schools.

Register Now!

Every student deserves a learning environment that fosters growth and belonging, where they are safe and free from harm. However, such a learning environment is not possible if corporal punishment is allowable under the guise of “discipline.”

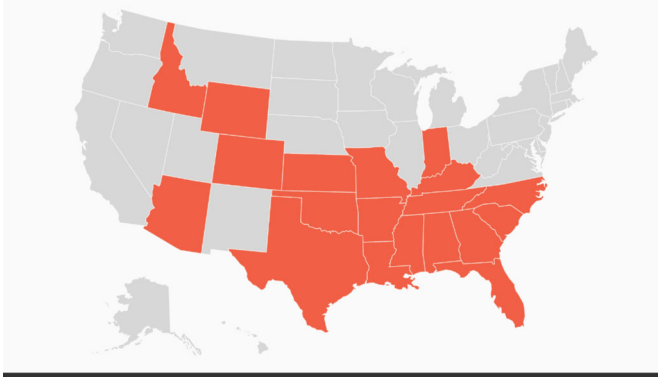
Corporal punishment is still legal in schools across 19 states. While many states have banned the use of corporal punishment, more than 106,000 children received corporal punishment during the 2015-16 school year.

Black students disproportionately receive corporal punishment in schools as well as students with disabilities, making this a key racial justice and educational equity issue.

Data indicate that corporal punishment is used on children – specifically students of color – **as young as 3 years old**. Any student receiving corporal punishment is one student too many.

Corporal punishment does not teach nor lead to improved behavior. It is associated with negative outcomes, poor behavioral and mental health, and reduced cognitive ability and self-esteem. Physical harm to students is not only an impediment to students’ growth, but it also is an equity concern that impacts students that have been underserved by the current system.

The 19 States Where Corporal Punishment is Still Legal



Students must be safe and free from physical harm in schools. A supportive school environment is critical for effective teaching and learning. This is perhaps more important than ever as students return to classrooms after a period of remote learning due to COVID-19.

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The pandemic has upended the lives of many students and their families, leading to increases in social isolation, anxiety, stress and

trauma. Some students may have difficulty adhering to new safety requirements, such as increased the use of personal protective equipment and physical distancing.

It is incumbent on all states, districts, schools and educators to foster positive school climates and improve discipline practices through evidence-based strategies, like training and ongoing professional development for educators, greater involvement of school support staff, and the use of other evidence-based supports like restorative justice practices.

Did you know?

“In 19 states, teachers are allowed to beat children, which could include spanking, paddling, slapping, hitting in the name of discipline.”

- Morgan Craven, IDRA

#KeepSchoolSafe

IDRA

The Protecting Our Students in Schools Act furthers this goal by banning the use of corporal punishment in schools that receive federal funds and provides resources for schools and districts to implement practices that we know contribute best to a learning environment designed to help students thrive.

Join us for a conversation on the need to pass this important piece of legislation to keep students safe in school.

[Register Now](#)

June 24, 2021

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Children First
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