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# SPEECH FIRST

## Speech First Submits Comment To Dept. Of Ed. Over The Removal Of The Free Inquiry Rule

[Washington, D.C. \(March 27, 2023\)](#) – This week, Speech First submitted [comments](#) to Biden’s Department of Education on the Administration’s removal of the “free inquiry rule”, this rule protected student religious organizations.

[Cherise Trump](#), Executive Director of Speech First, issued the following statement:

“It couldn’t be more obvious what the Biden Administration is doing, from the impending removal of the *Davis* standard to the removal of the free inquiry rule, the Biden Administration is hellbent on chilling speech. The free inquiry rule, implemented in 2020, protected religious student organizations from discrimination (including discrimination based on their speech) and withheld funding from universities that chose to not abide by this rule. It’s beyond important that we continue waging this fight: there is a war on speech, and students’ Constitutional rights have been thrown to the wayside. It’s obvious that student religious groups are not the Biden Administration’s favored constituency, despite President Biden claiming to be a “devout” Catholic. By declaring that the free inquiry rule is unnecessary due to the First Amendment, this Administration completely ignores the ever-growing trend of discrimination against religious groups and the ever-present chilling of speech across this nation. We have Constitutional rights for a reason, and the Biden Administration should be doing everything it can to vindicate the First Amendment, not undermine it.”

To schedule an engagement with Speech First, please contact Michael Hensley at [Michael@athospr.com](mailto:Michael@athospr.com) and [info@athospr.com](mailto:info@athospr.com).

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