



CONGRESSWOMAN  
**MAXINE WATERS**  
SERVING CALIFORNIA'S 43RD DISTRICT  
RANKING MEMBER OF THE  
FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

**CONTACT**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 14, 2018

[Rykia.Dorsey@mail.house.gov](mailto:Rykia.Dorsey@mail.house.gov)

**\*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\***

## **Rep. Waters to Host Roundtable on Betsy DeVos' Attacks on Student Civil Rights**

WASHINGTON – **Congresswoman Maxine Waters (CA-43)** will host a roundtable with Members of Congress, civil rights advocates, and student leaders on **Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 3:30 pm** to discuss attacks on civil rights protections for students -- particularly students of color, students with disabilities, transgender students, and survivors of sexual assault – by Education Secretary Betsy DeVos.

Pursuant to 20 U.S. Code § 3413, the Education Department's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is responsible for ensuring federal civil rights laws are followed by our nation's academic institutions. However, under Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, the Department is failing to do so. As a remedy, Congresswoman Waters recently introduced the *Education Department Civil Rights Transparency Act*, [H.R. 6537](#), to increase transparency in investigations conducted by the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights.

The roundtable will feature a robust discussion of the state of students' civil rights under Secretary DeVos and the steps policymakers can take to better protect students.

**Who:**

- **Congresswoman Maxine Waters (CA-43)**
- Members of Congress
- Representatives from:
  - **NAACP Legal Defense Fund**
  - **End Rape on Campus**
  - **National Disability Rights Network**
  - **National Women's Law Center**
  - **Leadership Conference on Civil & Human Rights**
  - **Human Rights Campaign**
- Student Leaders from Local Universities

**What:** Opening remarks by Rep. Waters followed by a roundtable on student civil rights protections

**When:** Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 5:30pm

**Where:** Cannon House Office Building Room 421

The event is open to the press. RSVP to [Rykia.Dorsey@mail.house.gov](mailto:Rykia.Dorsey@mail.house.gov) or call 202-225-2201.