

Miss America FL Winner Lost Her Title for Her Faith, Now Congress Is Honoring Her

A 19-year-old pageant winner who was stripped of her title for adhering to her biblical beliefs on gender and sexuality is now being recognized by Congress as “a modern-day Esther” for standing up for her convictions.

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Kayleigh Bush was crowned as the Miss North Florida 2025 pageant winner in August 2024, but was denied the official title months later because she objected to an unbiblical definition of “female” presented in the Miss America contract.

According to the non-profit legal group Liberty Counsel, the Miss America Organization (MAO) revised the contract language after Bush won the title.



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“Ultimately, the contract requires female beauty candidates to agree to compete against biological males – who have been subjected to medical mutilation as minor boys – and agree that these mutilated males are ‘female,’” Liberty Counsel, which represented Bush, explained.

Bush initially requested removal of the contract’s definitional language to avoid violating her religious beliefs and over concern for the safety of minor boys.

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However, the Miss Florida Scholarship Program, Inc., and the Miss America Organization (MAO) denied her appeal. Liberty Counsel sent a demand letter on her behalf, requesting that they reconsider the contract language and restore Bush's title so she could move forward in the Florida competition, scheduled for June 25-28, 2025.

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In the letter, Liberty Counsel explained that Bush objects to the definition based on her "religious, scientific, political, and moral beliefs that sex is immutable" and that "individuals are born and remain either male or female."

□Kayleigh Bush was stripped of her Miss North Florida 2025 title after refusing to sign a Miss America contract that falsely defined "female" to include castrated males. Rather than accept a lie, she gave up her crown.

But this weekend, Kayleigh was crowned "Miss She Leads..."

– Liberty Counsel (@libertycounsel) October 14, 2025

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