



PRESS RELEASE

March 4, 2019

Contact:
Erica Barz
Communications and Grants Coordinator
Mobile: (319) 269-2676
erica@oneiowa.org

Rep. Liz Bennett Introduces First Ever Intersex Minor Surgery Ban Bill in the Iowa Legislature

[Des Moines]— On Monday, March 4, Rep. Liz Bennett introduced [HF 576](#) in the Iowa Legislature. This bill would ban medically unnecessary surgeries for intersex minors. It is the first bill on this topic ever introduced in the Iowa Legislature, and one of only a small handful of bills introduced nationwide.

One Iowa Action Executive Director Daniel Hoffman-Zinnel released a statement thanking Rep. Liz Bennett for introducing [HF 576](#).

“Thank you, Rep. Liz Bennett, for working with One Iowa Action staff to draft and introduce this groundbreaking piece of legislation. Doctors in the United States, including in Iowa, continue to perform medically unnecessary surgeries that can inflict permanent physical and psychological harm on intersex children according to a [2017 report from Human Rights Watch and interACT](#).

The Iowa Legislature has the power to stop this practice in our state, and we urge Iowans to encourage their legislators to support HF 576. Iowa has a legacy of being on the cutting edge of equality, and we could continue that legacy by becoming the first state to ban these unnecessary and harmful surgeries.”

XXX

One Iowa Action is a 501(c)(4) organization working to preserve and advance the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) Iowans through grassroots efforts, voter education and advocacy.

Find out more at oneiowaaction.org.