

Terry E. Branstad GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Kim Reynolds LT. GOVERNOR

June 22, 2016

Mr. David Same 1020 104th Street Urbandale, IA 50322-3810

Dear Mr. Barnett,

Thank you for writing to the Office of Gov. Terry Branstad and Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds regarding transgender students' access to school restrooms and locker room facilities.

Governor Branstad has said that the directive issued by the U.S. Department of Education to public schools outlining their obligations is federal overreach. Although this guidance does not have the force of law, the implication that schools could lose federal aid is an unnecessary threat. Across Iowa, local school districts understand the importance of working with students and their families to make sure that everyone is treated with dignity and respect, and feels welcome and safe.

Thank you again for taking the time to let the governor and lt. governor know of your concerns. Please feel free to contact me with additional thoughts on this or other issues down the road.

Sincerely,

Office of the Governor

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Linda Fandel, Special Assistant for Education