



NARAL
Pro-Choice America

May 1, 2017

The Honorable Terry Branstad
Governor
State Capitol
1007 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Governor Branstad:

I am writing on behalf of the women of Iowa and Americans across the country to urge you to veto a harmful provision in H.F.653 that would discontinue the state's participation in the federal Medicaid program and bar clinics that provide abortion services from participating in the state's family-planning program.

This section of H.F.653 runs directly counter to the health and well-being of low-income Iowa women who deserve to get their health care from the provider of their choice. Nonetheless, legislators in Iowa are determined to cut off access to essential reproductive-health care providers. If enacted, women could lose access to vital health-care services and for many, family-planning clinics provide the only basic health care that they receive. Ironically, those who oppose legal abortion so strongly should be the first to support family-planning services, as that is the best way to prevent the need for abortion.

On behalf of women in Iowa and across the nation, I urge you to veto this harmful section in H.F.653.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ilyse G. Hogue".

Ilyse G. Hogue
President