



ellen krug  
writer, lawyer, human

## For Immediate Release

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### Comments re: South Dakota's Legislature Set to Criminalize Transgender Health Care; Krug to Travel to Sioux Falls to Speak

Minneapolis: Last week, the South Dakota House of Representatives passed HB1057, which would criminalize medical care to transgender children and youth younger than age 18. If the measure passes the South Dakota Senate and is signed by Governor Kristi Noem, the state will make it impossible for transgender children and youth to access life-saving hormones and medical care.

In response, Elle "Ellie" Krug, a transgender woman and national speaker on human inclusivity, stated, "South Dakota's Legislature has taken an incredibly discriminatory step that has no basis in reality. The parents of young transgender humans should be the ones making health-care decisions for their children, not some legislators who know nothing about what it means to be transgender or to have a trans family member."

Krug added, "In the coming weeks, the South Dakota Senate will be taking up HB1057. It's entirely possible the bill will pass, leaving only the governor as the last resort to protect transgender humans and their families who are at great risk simply because of living as themselves."

As a result of the of South Dakota legislators' actions, Krug will travel to Sioux Falls to speak on Saturday, February 22 at the Holiday Inn City Center at 10:00 a.m. Krug's talk, "Bridging Divides," will be free and open to the public; her talk is made possible by a collaboration with Sioux Falls' Transformation Project.  
([www.transormationprojectsd.org](http://www.transormationprojectsd.org))

Last year, Krug trained or spoke on human inclusivity more than 150 times across the U.S. She's also a weekly radio host and monthly columnist. Her monthly human inclusivity-focused e-newsletter *The Ripple* reaches more than 9000 people.

Krug is available for interviews or commentary. **Contact:** Ellie Krug, (p) 319-360-1692; [elliekrug@gmail.com](mailto:elliekrug@gmail.com) Websites [www.elliekrug.com](http://www.elliekrug.com) ; [www.humaninspirationworks.com](http://www.humaninspirationworks.com)

**Background:** Ellen (Ellie) Krug (pronounced "Kroog"), while an Iowa civil trial attorney with 100+ trials, transitioned from male to female in 2009. She later became one of the few attorneys nationally to try jury cases in separate genders. The author of *Getting to Ellen: A Memoir about Love, Honesty and Gender Change* (2013), Krug was named one of "25 Legal Advocates Fighting for Trans Rights" by *Advocate Magazine*. Krug has been a past commentator on Minnesota Public Radio, Iowa Public Radio and other media outlets. Interviews include the Huffington Post, the Minneapolis *Star Tribune*, and various print m # # #