

**House File 819 - Reprinted**

HOUSE FILE 819  
BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 714)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 25, 2021)

**A BILL FOR**

- 1 An Act relating to fundamental parental rights.
- 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1     Section 1. NEW SECTION.   **597A.1 Fundamental parental rights.**

2     1. The right to direct the care and custody of a parent's  
3 child is a parent's fundamental right.

4     2. State action infringing on this fundamental right shall  
5 be subject to strict scrutiny and shall be narrowly tailored to  
6 serve a compelling state interest.

7     3. Marital status shall not diminish this fundamental  
8 right, render a parent unfit, or establish a compelling state  
9 interest.

10    4. A parent is presumed to be a fit parent. This  
11 presumption may be overcome only by clear and convincing  
12 evidence.