Business Record Women of Influence Award Selection Committee Re: Nomination of Peggy Huppert

Dear Selection Committee:

We have known Peggy for 35 years. As long as we have we have known her, we've found her to be a tireless advocate for the health and well-being of all Iowans. Whether working in public health, the arts, conservation or women's rights, she builds the capacity of organizations to form coalitions that articulate strong, effective messages - creating public awareness of a particular need. Her work for the American Cancer Society is one example; her earlier leadership of the Chrysalis Foundation is another.

Her work also leads to direct, meaningful action. She facilitates the shaping of public policy legislation, moving organizations beyond awareness to systemic change. Evidence? Her role in the passage of the Smoke-Free Air Act and the adoption this session of comprehensive, statewide legislation to address the needs of individuals with complex mental health needs. Those working on this far-reaching bill recognize Peggy's hard-work, unwavering commitment and leadership role.

Peggy-the-volunteer is equally influential and passionate. She has supported conservation causes with time, talent and philanthropy and paid special attention to the arts – providing guidance and assistance to many organizations focused on the quality-of-life work that builds this community. Peggy's volunteer efforts are one of the notable reasons why Greater Des Moines earns those top-of-the-chart recognitions. Governor Vilsack recognized her expertise when appointing her to the lowa Arts Council.

Peggy has the courage to always say what she thinks and believes and a willingness to put her considerable talents and energies behind any cause she takes on. Her dedication and record of success have been a true inspiration to us — and to many others. She's a consistent reminder of the impact one smart, caring woman can have on family, friends, colleagues and community. She's exceptionally worthy a "Women of Influence" recognition.

Sincerely,

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