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# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

MATT GALLIVAN, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR  
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May 13, 2026

## VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

John Fernandez  
President and CEO  
Brown University Health  
Hasbro Children's Hospital  
593 Eddy Street  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. Fernandez:

Recent reports indicate that providers affiliated with Hasbro Children's Hospital (Hasbro) allegedly performed gender transition services on individuals under age 19 by providing puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones.<sup>1</sup> As a physician and Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP), these allegations raise serious concerns that Hasbro's providers may have promoted irreversible gender transition services in a manner not supported by sound scientific data.<sup>2</sup> Notably, organizations including the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) and the American Medical Association (AMA) have acknowledged that the evidence supporting certain gender transition procedures for minors remains insufficient or of low certainty.<sup>3</sup>

President Trump made clear that protecting children from these types of gender transition services should be a national priority. The President worked to restrict such practices through Executive Order (EO) 14187, *Protecting Children From Chemical and Surgical Mutilation*, which protects children from irreversible harm through gender transition services and directs federal agencies to enforce all applicable laws that prohibit or limit these services.<sup>4</sup> Further, in March 2025, following a Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Quality and Safety Special Alert Memo (QSSAM) alerting providers to the dangers of chemical and surgical

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<sup>1</sup> Complaint, *Ayala v. Am. Acad. of Pediatrics*, No. PC-2023-05428 (R.I. Super. Ct. Oct. 23, 2023), [https://dw-wp-production.imgix.net/2023/10/Ayala-v-AAP-Complaint\\_stamped.pdf](https://dw-wp-production.imgix.net/2023/10/Ayala-v-AAP-Complaint_stamped.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> Andrew Jacobs, *Doctors' Group Endorses Restrictions on Gender-Related Surgery for Minors*, THE NEW YORK TIMES (Feb. 4, 2026), <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/02/04/health/gender-surgery-minors-ama.html>; see also American Society of Plastic Surgeons, *Position Statement on Gender Surgery for Children and Adolescents* (Feb. 3, 2026), <https://www.plasticsurgery.org/documents/health-policy/positions/2026-gender-surgery-children-adolescents.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> Executive Order 14187, *Protecting Children from Chemical and Surgical Mutilation*, 90 Fed. Reg. 8771 (Feb. 3, 2025).

mutilation of children, HRSA announced plans to review its own grants and programs, including Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) funding, in order to protect children from such practices.<sup>5</sup>

Children's hospitals typically receive federal funding to train residents and qualify for participation in the federal 340B drug pricing program, as well as other competitive federal grants. These funds carry with them obligations to comply with applicable federal law and directives. Hasbro is a leading provider of advanced pediatric care, serving as the only pediatric emergency department in southeastern New England.<sup>6</sup> The hospital receives significant federal support, including several large multicenter grants funded by the National Institutes of Health.<sup>7</sup> While its pediatric physicians treat cases ranging from routine to complex, the provision of harmful, irreversible gender transition services falls outside the scope of appropriate pediatric care. These allegations therefore warrant further examination of Hasbro's alignment with federal policy and applicable funding requirements.

Accordingly, please respond to the following questions, on a question-by-question basis, no later than **May 28, 2026**:

1. How long has Hasbro provided gender transition-related services, including prescribing puberty blockers and facilitating gender transition procedures, to its patients?
2. Please identify all gender transition-related services provided at Hasbro from January 1, 2017, to present, including but not limited to the prescription and administration of puberty blockers or cross-sex hormones, surgical referrals, gender transition surgeries, mental health services related to gender dysphoria, and legal and social services.
  - a. Please provide the approximate number of patients treated and the ages of patients provided these services in compliance with all Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy rules and regulations.
  - b. Please provide the average cost to a patient who receives gender-transition related services, including negotiated insurance rates and cash pay.
3. Please describe all policies, protocols, and guidelines governing the provision of gender transition-related services from January 1, 2017, to present, including any changes made during this period.
  - a. Please provide all documents related to Hasbro's policies that were in effect at any point during this timeframe.

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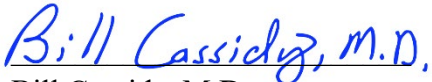
<sup>5</sup> Letter from Health Res. & Servs. Admin. to Hospital Administrators, Colleagues, and Grant Recipients (Mar. 6, 2025), <https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/grants/march-2025-letter-hospital-admins-grantees.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> Welcome to Hasbro Children's, BROWN UNIVERSITY HEALTH, <https://www.brownhealth.org/locations/hasbro-childrens/patient-and-family-centered-care/welcome-hasbro-childrens> (last visited Apr. 15, 2026).

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

- b. Please provide all educational materials and policy documents related to informed consent and parental notification requirements for gender transition-related services provided to individuals under age 19. Additionally, please explain whether patients under age 19 are receiving these services when parental consent is not provided.
4. Please list sources and amounts of federal funding received from FY 2017 to present.
  - a. Please provide this data in an Excel spreadsheet format.
5. Please describe Hasbro's current compliance standards with executive directives regarding gender transition services for individuals under age 19.
6. Please explain how the provision of gender transition-related services aligns with Hasbro's mission to provide the safest, most advanced pediatric care.
7. What, if any, remedial actions have been taken to ensure that services provided at Hasbro align with federal directives?
8. Has Hasbro been a party to any litigation regarding gender transition-related services being performed on individuals under age 19? If so, please list either the case name, citation, docket number, or party information.
9. What relationship, if any, does Hasbro have with Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital in Rhode Island, a recipient of the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education funding?<sup>8</sup>

Sincerely,



Bill Cassidy, M.D.

Chairman

U.S. Senate Committee on Health,  
Education, Labor, and Pensions

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<sup>8</sup> *Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education Payment Program*, HEALTH RES. & SERVS. ADMIN., [https://taggs.hhs.gov/Detail/CFDADetail?arg\\_CFDA\\_NUM=93255](https://taggs.hhs.gov/Detail/CFDADetail?arg_CFDA_NUM=93255) (last visited May 12, 2026).