

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 26-0547.01 Shelby Ross x4510

HOUSE BILL 26-1087

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Bottoms,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees
Health & Human Services

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING SAFEGUARDING A MINOR FROM HEALTH-CARE**
102 **INTERVENTIONS INTENDED TO ALTER THE MINOR'S BIOLOGICAL**
103 **SEX.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill prohibits a person, health-care provider, or mental health professional from knowingly performing surgery on, or prescribing, administering, or providing hormones or puberty blockers to, a minor for the purpose of altering the minor's biological sex characteristics, or providing mental health therapy, counseling, or referrals that promote or

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

affirm a minor's belief that the minor was born in the wrong body or that the minor needs medical intervention to address distress related to the minor's biological sex (prohibited interventions).

The bill prohibits the state from investigating or penalizing a minor's parent, or terminating the parent's rights, for refusing to consent to a prohibited intervention for the minor. A public school, health-care provider, or a governmental entity is prohibited from withholding information from a minor's parent regarding the minor's express desire to transition the minor's biological sex.

The bill prohibits state or federal funding, medicaid reimbursement, and health insurance coverage from being used to pay for a prohibited intervention. A person who, as a minor, was subjected to a prohibited intervention may bring a civil action within 20 years after attaining the age of 18 years against the person, health-care provider, or mental health professional who performed or provided the prohibited intervention.

The bill requires a regulator to revoke a health-care provider's or mental health professional's license for performing or providing a prohibited intervention. A person who knowingly performs or provides a prohibited intervention commits a class 5 felony, and the court is required to sentence the person to the maximum term of imprisonment and impose the maximum fine.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) Children lack the maturity to make permanent, life-altering
5 medical and psychological decisions;

6 (b) Medical and mental health interventions that attempt to alter
7 a minor's biological sex are experimental and carry serious, irreversible
8 consequences, including sterility, cognitive impacts, and increased mental
9 health struggles;

10 (c) European nations, including Sweden, Finland, and the United
11 Kingdom, have halted or severely restricted such interventions due to
12 evidence of harm;

13 (d) Colorado law already protects children from other life-altering

1 decisions, such as consuming alcohol, smoking, and getting tattoos. The
2 same protections should apply to medical and psychological interventions
3 related to biological sex.

4 (e) Parents have the fundamental right to guide their child's
5 medical and psychological care without coercion from governmental
6 agencies, schools, or medical professionals.

7 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 12-30-126** as
8 follows:

9 **12-30-126. Prohibition on medical and mental health**
10 **interventions on minors - parental rights - civil remedy - professional**
11 **license revocation - criminal penalties - severability.**

12 (1) A PERSON, HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER, OR MENTAL HEALTH
13 PROFESSIONAL SHALL NOT KNOWINGLY:

14 (a) PERFORM SURGERY ON A MINOR WHO IS UNDER EIGHTEEN
15 YEARS OLD, OR PRESCRIBE, ADMINISTER, OR PROVIDE HORMONES OR
16 PUBERTY BLOCKERS TO A MINOR, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALTERING THE
17 MINOR'S BIOLOGICAL SEX CHARACTERISTICS; OR

18 (b) PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH THERAPY, PROFESSIONAL
19 COUNSELING, OR REFERRALS THAT PROMOTE OR AFFIRM A MINOR'S BELIEF
20 THAT THE MINOR WAS BORN IN THE WRONG BODY OR THAT THE MINOR
21 NEEDS MEDICAL INTERVENTION TO ADDRESS DISTRESS RELATED TO THE
22 MINOR'S BIOLOGICAL SEX.

23 (2) THE STATE SHALL NOT INVESTIGATE OR PENALIZE A MINOR'S
24 PARENT, OR TERMINATE THE PARENT'S RIGHTS, FOR REFUSING TO CONSENT
25 TO A MEDICAL OR MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTION DESCRIBED IN
26 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION FOR THE MINOR.

27 (3) A PUBLIC SCHOOL, HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER, OR

1 GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY SHALL NOT WITHHOLD INFORMATION FROM A
2 MINOR'S PARENT REGARDING THE MINOR'S EXPRESS DESIRE TO TRANSITION
3 THE MINOR'S BIOLOGICAL SEX.

4 (4) STATE OR FEDERAL FUNDING, MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT, AND
5 HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE MUST NOT BE USED TO PAY FOR A
6 PROHIBITED MEDICAL OR MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTION DESCRIBED IN
7 SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION.

8 (5) A PERSON WHO, AS A MINOR, WAS SUBJECTED, ON OR AFTER
9 THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, TO A PROHIBITED MEDICAL OR
10 MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS
11 SECTION MAY BRING A CIVIL ACTION AGAINST THE PERSON, HEALTH-CARE
12 PROVIDER, OR MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL WHO PERFORMED OR
13 PROVIDED THE MEDICAL OR HEALTH-CARE INTERVENTION.
14 NOTWITHSTANDING ARTICLES 80 AND 81 OF TITLE 13 TO THE CONTRARY,
15 THE PERSON MAY COMMENCE THE ACTION WITHIN TWENTY YEARS AFTER
16 ATTAINING THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN YEARS.

17 (6) A REGULATOR SHALL REVOKE A HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER'S OR
18 MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL'S LICENSE FOR VIOLATING THIS SECTION
19 AND SHALL NOT REINSTATE THE LICENSE.

20 (7) A PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY VIOLATES THIS SECTION COMMITS
21 A CLASS 5 FELONY. THE COURT SHALL SENTENCE A PERSON CONVICTED OF
22 VIOLATING THIS SECTION TO THE MAXIMUM TERM OF IMPRISONMENT AND
23 IMPOSE THE MAXIMUM FINE SET FORTH IN SECTION 18-1.3-401.

24 (8) IF ANY PROVISION OF THIS SECTION OR THE APPLICATION OF
25 THIS SECTION TO ANY PERSON OR CIRCUMSTANCE IS HELD INVALID, THE
26 INVALIDITY DOES NOT AFFECT OTHER PROVISIONS OR APPLICATIONS OF
27 THE SECTION THAT CAN BE GIVEN EFFECT WITHOUT THE INVALID

1 PROVISION OR APPLICATION, AND TO THIS END THE PROVISIONS OF THIS
2 SECTION ARE DECLARED TO BE SEVERABLE.

3 **SECTION 3. Applicability.** This act applies to offenses
4 committed on or after the effective date of this act.

5 **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
6 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
7 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
8 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except that, if a
9 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
10 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
11 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
12 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
13 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
14 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.