

2025-2026 #71 Prohibiting Certain Surgeries on Minors ORIGINAL

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. The people of Colorado do hereby find and declare that:

- (1) Children lack the maturity to make permanent, life-altering medical decisions.
- (2) Medical treatments or interventions that attempt to surgically alter a minor child's biological sex often result in serious, irreversible consequences, including sterility.
- (3) European nations, including Sweden, Finland, and the United Kingdom, have halted surgery due to the serious and widespread harm resulting from that intervention.
- (4) Colorado law already protects children from other, permanent and potentially life-altering decisions, such as consuming alcohol and smoking. The same protections should apply to irreversible medical interventions related to biological sex.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 12-30-125 as follows:

(a) DEFINITIONS

- (1) "MINOR" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE.
- (2) "HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL" MEANS ANY PERSON LICENSED IN THIS STATE OR ANY OTHER STATE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE, CHIROPRACTIC, NURSING, PHYSICAL THERAPY, PODIATRY, DENTISTRY, PHARMACY, OPTOMETRY, PSYCHIATRY, PSYCHOLOGY, MENTAL HEALTH THERAPY, OR OTHER HEALING ARTS. THE TERM INCLUDES ANY PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION OR OTHER PROFESSIONAL ENTITY COMPRISED OF SUCH HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS AS PERMITTED BY THE LAWS OF THIS STATE.

(b) PROHIBITION ON MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS ON MINORS. NO HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL OR OTHER PERSON MAY KNOWINGLY:

- (1) PERFORM, PRESCRIBE, ADMINISTER, OR PROVIDE ANY SURGERY TO A MINOR FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALTERING BIOLOGICAL SEX CHARACTERISTICS;
- (3) NO STATE OR FEDERAL FUNDS, MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENTS, OR INSURANCE COVERAGE MAY BE USED TO PAY FOR ANY PROHIBITED MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTIONS (1) ABOVE.

(d) SEVERABILITY. IF ANY SECTION OF THIS INITIATIVE IS FOUND UNCONSTITUTIONAL OR INVALID, THE REMAINING SECTIONS SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT.

(E) THIS SECTION IS KNOWN AS THE “PROTECT CHILDREN FROM IRREVERSIBLE SEX CHANGE SURGERY ACT”

SECTION 3. Effective date - applicability. This measure shall become effective on January 1, 2027, and apply to violations occurring on or after the effective date.