

Senate Bill 519

By: Senators Watson of the 1st, Gooch of the 51st, Summers of the 13th, Harbin of the 16th, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to regulation of hospitals and related institutions, so as to prohibit prescribing or
3 administering certain hormone replacement therapies and puberty blocking medications for
4 certain purposes to minors; to amend Article 1 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code
5 of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia Composite Medical Board, so as to prohibit
6 prescribing or administering certain hormone replacement therapies and puberty blocking
7 medications for the treatment of gender dysphoria for certain purposes; to provide for
8 exceptions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
12 regulation of hospitals and related institutions, is amended by revising Code
13 Section 31-7-3.5, relating to treatment of minors for gender dysphoria and penalty for
14 violations, as follows:

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15 "31-7-3.5.

16 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this Code section, none of the following
17 irreversible procedures or irreversible or reversible therapies shall be performed on a minor
18 for the treatment of gender dysphoria or prescribed or administered to a minor if such
19 procedure or therapy is performed or prescribed or administered for the purpose of
20 attempting to alter the appearance of or affirm the minor's perception of his or her gender
21 or sex if that appearance or perception is inconsistent with the minor's sex in an institution
22 licensed pursuant to this article:

23 (1) Sex reassignment surgeries, or any other surgical procedures, that are performed for
24 the purpose of altering primary or secondary sexual characteristics; or

25 (2) Hormone replacement therapies that are prescribed or administered for the purpose
26 of altering primary or secondary sexual characteristics or puberty blocking medications
27 that are prescribed or administered for the purpose of delaying or suppressing puberty.

28 (b) The provisions of subsection (a) of this Code section shall not apply to treatment
29 provided pursuant to an exception contained in subsection (b) of Code Section 43-34-15.

30 (c) The department shall establish sanctions, by rule and regulation, for violations of this
31 Code section up to and including the revocation of an institution's permit issued pursuant
32 to Code Section 31-7-3."

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SECTION 2.

34 Article 1 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
35 Georgia Composite Medical Board, is amended by revising Code Section 43-34-15, relating
36 to prohibition on certain therapies and procedures for treatment of gender dysphoria in
37 minors, regulations, exceptions, and accountability, as follows:

38 "43-34-15.

39 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this Code section, the following
40 irreversible procedures and irreversible or reversible therapies performed on ~~a minor for~~
41 ~~the treatment of gender dysphoria~~ or prescribed or administered to a minor if such
42 procedure or therapy is performed or prescribed or administered for the purpose of
43 attempting to alter the appearance of or affirm the minor's perception of his or her gender
44 or sex if that appearance or perception is inconsistent with the minor's sex are prohibited
45 in this state:

46 (1) Sex reassignment surgeries, or any other surgical procedures, that are performed for
47 the purpose of altering primary or secondary sexual characteristics; and

48 (2) Hormone replacement therapies that are prescribed or administered for the purpose
49 of altering primary or secondary sexual characteristics or puberty blocking medications
50 that are prescribed or administered for the purpose of delaying or suppressing puberty.

51 (b) The board shall adopt rules and regulations regarding the prohibitions contained in
52 subsection (a) of this Code section, which shall contain limited exceptions for:

53 (1) Treatments for medical conditions other than gender dysphoria ~~or for the purpose of~~
54 ~~sex reassignment where such treatments are deemed medically necessary;~~

55 (2) Treatments for individuals born with a medically verifiable disorder of sex
56 development, including individuals born with ambiguous genitalia or chromosomal
57 abnormalities resulting in ambiguity regarding the individual's biological sex;

58 (3) Treatments for individuals with partial androgen insensitivity syndrome; ~~and~~

59 (4) Continued treatment of minors who are, prior to July 1, 2023, being treated with
60 irreversible hormone replacement therapies; and

61 (5) Continued treatment of minors who are, prior to July 1, 2024, being treated with
62 puberty blocking medication and receiving counseling on the risks, medical
63 complications, and irreversible and reversible outcomes of such medication.

64 (c) A licensed physician who violates this Code section shall be held administratively
65 accountable to the board for such violation."

66 **SECTION 3.**

67 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.