

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1033 Session of
2025

INTRODUCED BY ROAE, HAMM, BOROWICZ, JAMES, MENTZER, KAUFFMAN,
M. BROWN, FEE, ZIMMERMAN, GILLEN, BANTA, GREINER, BARGER,
FRITZ, SMITH, CUTLER AND FINK, MARCH 24, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, MARCH 24, 2025

AN ACT

1 Prohibiting gender transition procedures for minors and coverage
2 for gender transition procedures for minors.

3 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

4 (1) The Commonwealth has a compelling government
5 interest in protecting the health and safety of vulnerable
6 minors.

7 (2) Gender transition procedures are permanent and often
8 irreversible treatments that carry serious known risks,
9 ranging from increased risks of various types of cancer to
10 infertility.

11 (3) The vast majority of minors who express distress in
12 identifying with their biological sex eventually come to
13 identify with their biological sex in adolescence or
14 adulthood.

15 (4) Studies have refuted the misconception that
16 providing gender transition procedures to vulnerable minors
17 reduces risk of suicide, psychiatric morbidities and

1 mortality.

2 (5) The risks of performing gender transition procedures
3 on minors far outweigh any perceived benefits.

4 (6) The provisions of this act only apply to minors.

5 (7) An individual who has attained 18 years of age may
6 continue to obtain gender transition procedures.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Short title.

10 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Save
11 Adolescents from Experimentation Act.

12 Section 2. Definitions.

13 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
14 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
15 context clearly indicates otherwise:

16 "Biological sex." The biological indication of male and
17 female in the context of reproductive potential or capacity,
18 including sex chromosomes, naturally occurring sex hormones,
19 gonads and nonambiguous internal and external genitalia present
20 at birth, without regard to an individual's psychological,
21 chosen or subjective experience of gender.

22 "Cross-sex hormones." Any of the following:

23 (1) Testosterone or other androgens given to a
24 biological female at doses that are profoundly larger or more
25 potent than would normally occur naturally in a healthy
26 biological female.

27 (2) Estrogen given to a biological male at doses that
28 are profoundly larger or more potent than would normally
29 occur naturally in a healthy biological male.

30 "Gender." The psychological, behavioral, social and cultural

1 aspects of being male or female.

2 "Gender transition." The process in which an individual goes
3 from identifying with and living as a gender that corresponds to
4 the individual's biological sex to identifying with and living
5 as a gender different from the individual's biological sex which
6 may involve social, legal or physical changes.

7 "Gender transition procedure." All forms of treatments
8 related to gender transition, including genital gender
9 reassignment surgery, nongenital gender reassignment surgery,
10 cross-sex hormones and puberty-blocking drugs.

11 "Genital gender reassignment surgery." A genital medical
12 procedure performed for the purpose of assisting an individual
13 with a gender transition, including any of the following:

14 (1) A surgical procedure, including penectomy,
15 orchiectomy, vaginoplasty, clitoroplasty or vulvoplasty, for
16 biologically male patients and hysterectomy or ovariectomy
17 for biologically female patients.

18 (2) Reconstruction of the fixed part of the urethra with
19 or without a metoidioplasty.

20 (3) Phalloplasty, vaginectomy, scrotoplasty or
21 implantation of erection or testicular prostheses for
22 biologically female patients.

23 "Government program." A program of government-sponsored or
24 government-subsidized health care coverage, including any of the
25 following:

26 (1) The children's health insurance program under
27 Article XXIII-A of the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284),
28 known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921.

29 (2) The medical assistance program under Subdivision (f)
30 of Article IV of the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21),

known as the Human Services Code.

"Health care practitioner." As defined in section 103 of the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities Act.

"Health insurance policy." A policy, subscriber contract, certificate or plan issued by an insurer that provides medical or health care coverage. The term includes a dental only and a vision only policy. The term does not include:

- (1) An accident only policy.
- (2) A credit only policy.
- (3) A long-term care or disability income policy.
- (4) A specified disease policy.
- (5) A Medicare supplement policy.
- (6) A TRICARE policy, including a Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services supplement policy.
- (7) A fixed indemnity policy.
- (8) A hospital indemnity policy.
- (9) A worker's compensation policy.
- (10) An automobile medical payment policy under 75 Pa.C.S. (relating to vehicles).
- (11) A homeowner's insurance policy.
- (12) Any other similar policies providing for limited benefits.

"Insurer." An entity licensed by the Insurance Department that offers, issues or renews a health insurance policy and is governed under any of the following:

- (1) The act of December 29, 1972 (P.L.1701, No.364), known as the Health Maintenance Organization Act.
- (2) 40 Pa.C.S. Ch. 61 (relating to hospital plan corporations).

(3) 40 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63 (relating to professional health services plan corporations).

"Licensing board." Each licensing board within the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs of the Department of State with jurisdiction over a health care practitioner.

"Minor." An individual who is younger than 18 years of age.

"Nongenital gender reassignment surgery." A nongenital medical procedure performed for the purpose of assisting an individual with a gender transition, including any of the following:

(1) A surgical procedure for a biologically male patient, including augmentation mammoplasty, facial feminization surgery, liposuction, lipofilling, voice surgery, thyroid cartilage reduction, gluteal augmentation, hair reconstruction or various aesthetic procedures.

(2) A surgical procedure for a biologically female patient, including subcutaneous mastectomy, voice surgery, liposuction, lipofilling, pectoral implants or various aesthetic procedures.

"Pharmacist." An individual duly licensed by the State Board of Pharmacy to engage in the practice of pharmacy.

"Physician." A medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy.

"Puberty-blocking drugs." Any of the following:

(1) Gonadotropin-releasing hormone analogs or other synthetic drugs used in a biological male patient to stop luteinizing hormone secretion and, therefore, testosterone secretion.

(2) Synthetic drugs used in biological females that stop the production of estrogens and progesterone when used to delay or suppress pubertal development in children for the

1 purpose of assisting an individual with a gender transition.

2 Section 3. Prohibition on gender transition procedures for
3 minors.

4 (a) Prohibition on health care practitioners.--

5 (1) A health care practitioner may not perform gender
6 transition procedures on a minor or refer a minor to receive
7 gender transition procedures.

8 (2) A health care practitioner with prescriptive
9 authority may not prescribe cross-sex hormones or puberty-
10 blocking drugs to a minor or refer a minor to be prescribed
11 cross-sex hormones or puberty-blocking drugs.

12 (b) Prohibition on pharmacists.--A pharmacist may not
13 dispense cross-sex hormones or puberty-blocking drugs to a
14 minor.

15 (c) Construction.--Nothing in this section shall be
16 construed to restrict any of the following:

17 (1) Services provided to an individual born with a
18 medically verifiable disorder of sex development, sex
19 chromosome structure, sex steroid hormone production or sex
20 steroid hormone action.

21 (2) The treatment of an infection, injury, disease or
22 disorder that has been caused or exacerbated by the
23 performance of gender transition procedures.

24 (3) Medically necessary procedures, as determined by a
25 physician, undertaken to prevent death or impairment of a
26 major bodily function.

27 (4) Mental health treatment that is not prohibited under
28 subsection (a).

29 (d) Penalties.--A health care practitioner who violates
30 subsection (a) shall be subject to discipline by the applicable

1 licensing board with jurisdiction over the health care
2 practitioner. A licensing board with jurisdiction over a health
3 care practitioner who violates subsection (a) shall consider the
4 violation to be a violation of the health care practitioner's
5 scope of practice as specified under State law and grounds for
6 sanctions as specified under State law.

7 Section 4. Prohibition on coverage for gender transition
8 procedures for minors.

9 (a) Prohibition on insurers.--Except as authorized under
10 section 3(c), an insurer may not provide a health insurance
11 policy to provide coverage for gender transition procedures.

12 (b) Prohibition on government programs.--Except as
13 authorized under section 3(c), a government program may not
14 provide coverage for gender transition procedures.

15 Section 5. Severability.

16 The provisions of this act are severable. If any provision of
17 this act or its application to any person or circumstance is
18 held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions
19 or applications of this act which can be given effect without
20 the invalid provision or application.

21 Section 6. Effective date.

22 This act shall take effect in 60 days.