

SENATE BILL No. 63

By Committee on Public Health and Welfare

1-22

1 AN ACT concerning children and minors; relating to healthcare of minors;
2 enacting the help not harm act; prohibiting healthcare providers from
3 treating a child whose gender identity is inconsistent with the child's
4 sex; authorizing a civil cause of action against healthcare providers for
5 providing such treatments; restricting use of state funds to promote
6 gender transitioning; prohibiting professional liability insurance from
7 covering damages for healthcare providers that provide gender
8 transition treatment to children; requiring professional discipline
9 against a healthcare provider who performs such treatments; adding
10 violation of the act to the definition of unprofessional conduct for
11 physicians; amending K.S.A. 65-2837 and repealing the existing
12 section.

13
14 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

15 New Section 1. (a) The provisions of sections 1 through 6, and
16 amendments thereto, shall be known and may be cited as the help not harm
17 act.

18 (b) As used in this act:

19 (1) "Child" means an individual less than 18 years of age.

20 (2) "Female" means an individual who is a member of the female sex.

21 (3) "Gender" means the psychological, behavioral, social and cultural
22 aspects of being male or female.

23 (4) "Gender dysphoria" is the diagnosis of gender dysphoria in the
24 fifth edition of the diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders.

25 (5) "Healthcare provider" means an individual who is licensed,
26 certified or otherwise authorized by the laws of this state to administer
27 healthcare services in the ordinary course of the practice of such
28 individual's profession.

29 (6) "Male" means an individual who is a member of the male sex.

30 (7) "Perceived sex" is an individual's internal sense of such
31 individual's sex.

32 (8) "Perceived gender" is an individual's internal sense of such
33 individual's gender.

34 (9) "Sex" means the biological indication of male and female in the
35 context of reproductive potential or capacity, including sex chromosomes,
36 naturally occurring sex hormones, gonads and nonambiguous internal and

1 external genitalia present at birth, without regard to an individual's
2 psychological, chosen or subjective experience of gender.

3 (10) "Social transitioning" means acts other than medical or surgical
4 interventions that are undertaken for the purpose of presenting as a
5 member of the opposite sex, including the changing of an individual's
6 preferred pronouns or manner of dress.

7 New Sec. 2. (a) A recipient of state funds shall not use such funds to
8 provide or subsidize medication or surgery as provided in section 3, and
9 amendments thereto, as a treatment for a child's perception of gender or
10 sex that is inconsistent with such child's sex.

11 (b) An individual or entity that receives state funds to pay for or
12 subsidize the treatment of children for psychological conditions, including
13 gender dysphoria, shall not prescribe, dispense or administer medication or
14 perform surgery as provided in section 3, and amendments thereto, or
15 provide a referral to another healthcare provider for such medication or
16 surgery for a child whose perceived gender or perceived sex is inconsistent
17 with such child's sex.

18 (c) The Kansas program of medical assistance and its managed care
19 organizations shall not reimburse or provide coverage for medication or
20 surgery as provided in section 3, and amendments thereto, as a treatment
21 for a child whose perceived gender or perceived sex is inconsistent with
22 such child's sex.

23 (d) Except to the extent required by the first amendment to the United
24 States constitution, a state property, facility or building shall not be used to
25 promote or advocate the use of social transitioning, medication or surgery
26 as provided in section 3, and amendments thereto, as a treatment for a
27 child whose perceived gender or perceived sex is inconsistent with such
28 child's sex.

29 (e) A state property, facility or building shall not be used to prescribe,
30 dispense or administer medication or perform surgery as provided in
31 section 3, and amendments thereto, as a treatment for a child whose
32 perceived gender or perceived sex is inconsistent with such child's sex.

33 (f) A state employee whose official duties include the care of children
34 shall not, while engaged in those official duties, promote the use of social
35 transitioning or provide or promote medication or surgery as provided in
36 section 3, and amendments thereto, as a treatment for a child whose
37 perceived gender or perceived sex is inconsistent with such child's sex.

38 New Sec. 3. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c) or (d), a
39 healthcare provider shall not knowingly perform the following surgical
40 procedures or prescribe, dispense or administer the following medications
41 to a female child for the purpose of treatment for distress arising from such
42 female child's perception that such child's gender or sex is not female:

43 (1) Surgical procedures, including, but not limited to, a vaginectomy,

1 hysterectomy, oophorectomy, ovariectomy, reconstruction of the urethra,
2 metoidioplasty, phalloplasty, scrotoplasty, implantation of erection or
3 testicular protheses, subcutaneous mastectomy, voice surgery, liposuction,
4 lipofilling or pectoral implants;

5 (2) supraphysiologic doses of testosterone or other androgens; or

6 (3) puberty blockers such as GnRH agonists or other synthetic drugs
7 that suppress the production of estrogen and progesterone to delay or
8 suppress pubertal development in female children.

9 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) or (d), a healthcare provider
10 shall not knowingly perform the following surgical procedures or
11 prescribe, dispense or administer the following medications to a male child
12 for the purpose of treatment for distress arising from such male child's
13 perception that such child's gender or sex is not male:

14 (1) Surgical procedures, including, but not limited to, a penectomy,
15 orchiectomy, vaginoplasty, clitoroplasty, vulvoplasty, augmentation
16 mammoplasty, facial feminization surgery, liposuction, lipofilling, voice
17 surgery, thyroid cartilage reduction or gluteal augmentation;

18 (2) supraphysiologic doses of estrogen; or

19 (3) puberty blockers such as GnRH agonists or other synthetic drugs
20 that suppress the production of testosterone or delay or suppress pubertal
21 development in male children.

22 (c) The treatments prohibited by subsections (a) and (b) shall not
23 apply to treatment provided for other purposes, including:

24 (1) Treatment for individuals born with a medically verifiable
25 disorder of sex development, including:

26 (A) An individual born with external biological sex characteristics
27 that are irresolvably ambiguous, including an individual born with 46 XX
28 chromosomes with virilization, 46 XY chromosomes with under
29 virilization or having both ovarian and testicular tissue; or

30 (B) an individual whom a physician has otherwise diagnosed with a
31 disorder of sexual development that the physician has determined through
32 genetic or biochemical testing that such individual does not have normal
33 sex chromosome structure, sex steroid hormone production or sex steroid
34 hormone action for a male or female; and

35 (2) treatment of any infection, injury, disease or disorder that has
36 been caused or exacerbated by the performance of a procedure listed in
37 subsections (a) or (b).

38 (d) If a healthcare provider has initiated a course of treatment for a
39 child that includes prescribing, administering or dispensing of a drug
40 prohibited by subsection (a)(2), (a)(3), (b)(2) or (b)(3) prior to the effective
41 date of this act, the healthcare provider may continue such course of
42 treatment if the healthcare provider:

43 (1) Develops a plan to systematically reduce the child's use of such

1 drug;

2 (2) determines and documents in the child's medical record that
3 immediately terminating the child's use of such drug would cause harm to
4 the child; and

5 (3) such course of treatment shall not extend beyond December 31,
6 2025.

7 New Sec. 4. (a) If a healthcare provider violates the provisions of
8 section 3, and amendments thereto:

9 (1) The healthcare provider has engaged in unprofessional conduct
10 and, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the license of
11 such healthcare provider shall be revoked by the appropriate licensing
12 entity or disciplinary review board with competent jurisdiction in this
13 state.

14 (b) A healthcare provider who provides treatment to a child in
15 violation of section 3(a) or (b), and amendments thereto, shall be held
16 strictly liable to such child if the treatment or effects of such treatment
17 results in any physical, psychological, emotional or physiological harms to
18 such child in the next 10 years from the date that the individual turns 18
19 years of age. ***A prevailing plaintiff may recover actual and punitive***
20 ***damages, injunctive relief, the cost of the suit and reasonable attorney***
21 ***fees.***

22 (c) The parents of a child who has experienced violation of section
23 3(a) or (b), and amendments thereto, shall have a private cause of action
24 against a healthcare provider for ~~damages and equitable relief as the court~~
25 ~~may determine is justified. A prevailing party may recover the costs of the~~
26 ~~suit and reasonable attorney fees~~ ***actual and punitive damages, injunctive***
27 ***relief, the cost of the suit and reasonable attorney fees.***

28 (d) (1) An individual who was provided treatment as a child in
29 violation of section 3(a) or (b), and amendments thereto, shall have a
30 private cause of action against the healthcare provider who provided such
31 treatment for actual damages, punitive damages, injunctive relief, the cost
32 of the suit and reasonable attorney fees.

33 (2) An action against a healthcare provider pursuant to this subsection
34 shall be filed within 10 years from the date that the individual turns 18
35 years of age.

36 New Sec. 5. A professional liability insurance policy issued to a
37 healthcare provider shall not include coverage for damages assessed
38 against the healthcare provider who provides treatment to a child in
39 violation of section 3(a) or (b), and amendments thereto.

40 New Sec. 6. If any provision or clause of this act or application
41 thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall
42 not affect other provisions or applications of this act that can be given
43 effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the

1 provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

2 Sec. 7. K.S.A. 65-2837 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-
3 2837. As used in K.S.A. 65-2836, and amendments thereto, and in this
4 section:

5 (a) "Professional incompetency" means:

6 (1) One or more instances involving failure to adhere to the
7 applicable standard of care to a degree that constitutes gross negligence, as
8 determined by the board.

9 (2) Repeated instances involving failure to adhere to the applicable
10 standard of care to a degree that constitutes ordinary negligence, as
11 determined by the board.

12 (3) A pattern of practice or other behavior that demonstrates a
13 manifest incapacity or incompetence to practice the healing arts.

14 (b) "Unprofessional conduct" means:

15 (1) Solicitation of professional patronage through the use of
16 fraudulent or false advertisements, or profiting by the acts of those
17 representing themselves to be agents of the licensee.

18 (2) Representing to a patient that a manifestly incurable disease,
19 condition or injury can be permanently cured.

20 (3) Assisting in the care or treatment of a patient without the consent
21 of the patient, the attending physician or the patient's legal representatives.

22 (4) The use of any letters, words or terms as an affix, on stationery, in
23 advertisements or otherwise indicating that such person is entitled to
24 practice a branch of the healing arts for which such person is not licensed.

25 (5) Performing, procuring or aiding and abetting in the performance
26 or procurement of a criminal abortion.

27 (6) Willful betrayal of confidential information.

28 (7) Advertising professional superiority or the performance of
29 professional services in a superior manner.

30 (8) Advertising to guarantee any professional service or to perform
31 any operation painlessly.

32 (9) Participating in any action as a staff member of a medical care
33 facility that is designed to exclude or that results in the exclusion of any
34 person licensed to practice medicine and surgery from the medical staff of
35 a nonprofit medical care facility licensed in this state because of the
36 branch of the healing arts practiced by such person or without just cause.

37 (10) Failure to effectuate the declaration of a qualified patient as
38 provided in K.S.A. 65-28,107(a), and amendments thereto.

39 (11) Prescribing, ordering, dispensing, administering, selling,
40 supplying or giving any amphetamines or sympathomimetic amines,
41 except as authorized by K.S.A. 65-2837a, and amendments thereto.

42 (12) Conduct likely to deceive, defraud or harm the public.

43 (13) Making a false or misleading statement regarding the licensee's

1 skill or the efficacy or value of the drug, treatment or remedy prescribed
2 by the licensee or at the licensee's direction in the treatment of any disease
3 or other condition of the body or mind.

4 (14) Aiding or abetting the practice of the healing arts by an
5 unlicensed, incompetent or impaired person.

6 (15) Allowing another person or organization to use the licensee's
7 license to practice the healing arts.

8 (16) Commission of any act of sexual abuse, misconduct or other
9 improper sexual contact that exploits the licensee-patient relationship with
10 a patient or a person responsible for ~~health care~~ *healthcare* decisions
11 concerning such patient.

12 (17) The use of any false, fraudulent or deceptive statement in any
13 document connected with the practice of the healing arts including the
14 intentional falsifying or fraudulent altering of a patient or medical care
15 facility record.

16 (18) Obtaining any fee by fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

17 (19) Directly or indirectly giving or receiving any fee, commission,
18 rebate or other compensation for professional services not actually and
19 personally rendered, other than through the legal functioning of lawful
20 professional partnerships, corporations, limited liability companies or
21 associations.

22 (20) Failure to transfer patient records to another licensee when
23 requested to do so by the subject patient or by such patient's legally
24 designated representative.

25 (21) Performing unnecessary tests, examinations or services that have
26 no legitimate medical purpose.

27 (22) Charging an excessive fee for services rendered.

28 (23) Prescribing, dispensing, administering or distributing a
29 prescription drug or substance, including a controlled substance, in an
30 improper or inappropriate manner, or for other than a valid medical
31 purpose, or not in the course of the licensee's professional practice.

32 (24) Repeated failure to practice healing arts with that level of care,
33 skill and treatment that is recognized by a reasonably prudent similar
34 practitioner as being acceptable under similar conditions and
35 circumstances.

36 (25) Failure to keep written medical records that accurately describe
37 the services rendered to the patient, including patient histories, pertinent
38 findings, examination results and test results.

39 (26) Delegating professional responsibilities to a person when the
40 licensee knows or has reason to know that such person is not qualified by
41 training, experience or licensure to perform them.

42 (27) Using experimental forms of therapy without proper informed
43 patient consent, without conforming to generally accepted criteria or

1 standard protocols, without keeping detailed legible records or without
2 having periodic analysis of the study and results reviewed by a committee
3 or peers.

4 (28) Prescribing, dispensing, administering or distributing an anabolic
5 steroid or human growth hormone for other than a valid medical purpose.
6 Bodybuilding, muscle enhancement or increasing muscle bulk or strength
7 through the use of an anabolic steroid or human growth hormone by a
8 person who is in good health is not a valid medical purpose.

9 (29) Referring a patient to a ~~health care~~ *healthcare* entity for services
10 if the licensee has a significant investment interest in the ~~health care~~
11 *healthcare* entity, unless the licensee informs the patient in writing of such
12 significant investment interest and that the patient may obtain such
13 services elsewhere.

14 (30) Failing to properly supervise, direct or delegate acts that
15 constitute the healing arts to persons who perform professional services
16 pursuant to such licensee's direction, supervision, order, referral,
17 delegation or practice protocols.

18 (31) Violating K.S.A. 65-6703, and amendments thereto.

19 (32) *Violating the help not harm act, sections 1 through 6, and*
20 *amendments thereto.*

21 (33) Charging, billing or otherwise soliciting payment from any
22 patient, patient's representative or insurer for anatomic pathology services,
23 if such services are not personally rendered by the licensee or under such
24 licensee's direct supervision. As used in this subsection, "anatomic
25 pathology services" means the gross or microscopic examination of
26 histologic processing of human organ tissue or the examination of human
27 cells from fluids, aspirates, washings, brushings or smears, including blood
28 banking services, and subcellular or molecular pathology services,
29 performed by or under the supervision of a person licensed to practice
30 medicine and surgery or a clinical laboratory. Nothing in this subsection
31 shall be construed to prohibit billing for anatomic pathology services by:

32 (A) A hospital;

33 (B) a clinical laboratory when samples are transferred between
34 clinical laboratories for the provision of anatomic pathology services; or

35 (C) a physician providing services to a patient pursuant to a medical
36 retainer agreement in compliance with K.S.A. 65-4978, and amendments
37 thereto, when the bill to the patient for such services:

38 (i) Identifies the laboratory or physician that performed the services;

39 (ii) discloses in writing to the patient the actual amount charged by
40 the physician or laboratory that performed the service; and

41 (iii) is consistent with rules and regulations adopted by the board for
42 appropriate billing standards applicable to such services when furnished
43 under these agreements.

1 ~~(33)~~(34) Engaging in conduct that violates patient trust and exploits
2 the licensee-patient relationship for personal gain.

3 ~~(34)~~(35) Obstructing a board investigation including, but not limited
4 to, engaging in one or more of the following acts:

5 (A) Falsifying or concealing a material fact;

6 (B) knowingly making or causing to be made any false or misleading
7 statement or writing; or

8 (C) other acts or conduct likely to deceive or defraud the board.

9 (c) "False advertisement" means any advertisement that is false,
10 misleading or deceptive in a material respect. In determining whether any
11 advertisement is misleading, there shall be taken into account not only
12 representations made or suggested by statement, word, design, device,
13 sound or any combination thereof, but also the extent to which the
14 advertisement fails to reveal facts material in the light of such
15 representations made.

16 (d) "Advertisement" means all representations disseminated in any
17 manner or by any means for the purpose of inducing, or that are likely to
18 induce, directly or indirectly, the purchase of professional services.

19 (e) "Licensee" for purposes of this section and K.S.A. 65-2836, and
20 amendments thereto, means all persons issued a license, permit or special
21 permit pursuant to article 28 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes
22 Annotated, and amendments thereto.

23 (f) "License" for purposes of this section and K.S.A. 65-2836, and
24 amendments thereto, means any license, permit or special permit granted
25 under article 28 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and
26 amendments thereto.

27 ~~(g) "Health-care~~Healthcare entity" means any corporation, firm,
28 partnership or other business entity that provides services for diagnosis or
29 treatment of human health conditions and that is owned separately from a
30 referring licensee's principle practice.

31 (h) "Significant investment interest" means ownership of at least 10%
32 of the value of the firm, partnership or other business entity that owns or
33 leases the ~~health-care~~ healthcare entity, or ownership of at least 10% of the
34 shares of stock of the corporation that owns or leases the ~~health-care~~
35 healthcare entity.

36 Sec. 8. K.S.A. 65-2837 is hereby repealed.

37 Sec. 9. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
38 publication in the ~~statute book~~ *Kansas register*.