



# HOUSE BILL 519: Parents' Medical Bill of Rights.

2025-2026 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	May 5, 2025
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Balkcom, Loftis, Biggs, Potts	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Jason Moran-Bates
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 519 would limit the ability of minors to consent to medical procedures on their own, clarify that physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners may treat minors without parental consent if (i) the parents cannot be located, (ii) the minor cannot be identified, (iii) delay in treatment would be harmful to the minor (iv) parents have not consented to treatment, and there is not enough time to obtain a court order allowing treatment, or (v) the treatment is for a condition or injury likely to trigger a mandatory report, and allow parents to access the medical records of minors in most circumstances.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Under current law, minors can consent on their own to medical treatment for (i) venereal diseases and other disease that are reportable under the public health statutes, (ii) pregnancy, (iii) substance abuse, and (iv) emotional disturbance. Only physicians can treat minors without parental consent if (i) the parents cannot be located, (ii) the minor cannot be identified, (iii) delay in treatment would be harmful to the minor or (iv) parents have not consented to treatment, and there is not enough time to obtain a court order allowing treatment.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 519 would amend the minor consent provisions in Chapter 90 (Health and Allied Occupations) so that all minors can only consent on their own to treatment for pregnancy. Minors age 16 and older would be able to consent to treatment for and venereal diseases and other reportable diseases that can be treated with a prescription with a duration of ten days or less. Minors would not be able to consent to any other medical procedures on their own.

The bill would also allow physician assistants and nurse practitioners to treat minors without parental consent if (i) the parents cannot be located, (ii) the minor cannot be identified, (iii) delay in treatment would be harmful to the minor or (iv) parents have not consented to treatment, and there is not enough time to obtain a court order allowing treatment. Physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners would be permitted to treat minors without parental consent if the treatment is for an injury or condition that would trigger a mandatory report under child welfare statutes.

Finally, the bill would allow parents to access all medical records of their minor children unless one of the following applies:

- The treatment was for an injury or condition that would trigger an obligation to report under child welfare statutes.
- The treatment was for pregnancy.
- The release of records is prohibited by a court order.

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- The parent is under investigation for committing a crime against the minor, and a law enforcement agency has asked the records not be released.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The bill would become effective October 1, 2025, and apply to acts occurring on or after that date.