



# HOUSE BILL 560: Parents Protection Act.

2025-2026 General Assembly

<b>Committee:</b>	House Judiciary 2. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	May 6, 2025
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Loftis, N. Jackson, Biggs, Balkcom	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Debbie Griffiths
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

## OVERVIEW: *House Bill 560 would do the following:*

- *Amend Article 1 of Subchapter I of Chapter 7B of the General Statutes to clarify that a parent, guardian, custodian, or caretaker who raises or refers to a child consistent with the child's biological sex would not be subject to a petition alleging abuse or neglect based on those acts only. This limitation could not be construed to authorize or allow any other act or omission that would constitute child abuse or neglect.*
- *Amend G.S. 48-3-203 to prohibit an adoption agency from denying or delaying the opportunity to become an adoptive parent or the placement of a child for adoption because of an adoptive parents' refusal, unwillingness, or lack of support to enable the child to engage in gender transition.*
- *Amend G.S. 131D-10.1 to clarify that raising a foster child consistent with their biological sex, including mental health and medical decisions, would not violate the safe foster home free of violence, abuse, neglect, or danger provision of the statute and that a foster parents' refusal, unwillingness, or lack of support to enable the child to engage in gender transition cannot be a basis to deny or delay approval as a foster parent or placement of the child in foster care.*
- *Amend G.S. 14-318.2 and G.S. 14-318.4 to clarify that a parent or other person providing care or supervision of a child less than 18 years old who is raising or referring to the child consistent with the child's biological sex would not be guilty of misdemeanor or felony child abuse. These amendments would not authorize or allow any other act or omission that is a violation of the statute.*
- *Amend G.S. 14-318.4(d)(2) to clarify that serious mental injury does not include a parent raising a child consistent with the child's biological sex.*

## CURRENT LAW and BILL ANALYSIS: Current law is underlined.

**Sections 1.(a), (b), and (c).** Article 1 of Subchapter I of Chapter 7B of the General Statutes would be amended to clarify that that a parent, guardian, custodian, or caretaker who raises or refers to a child consistent with the child's biological sex would not be subject to a petition alleging abuse or neglect based on those acts only. This limitation could not be construed to authorize or allow any other act or omission that would constitute child abuse or neglect. These sections would become effective when they become law and apply to petitions filed before, on, or after that date.

**Sections 2.(a) and (b).** G.S. 48-3-203(a1) prohibits an adoption agency from denying or delaying an opportunity to become an adoptive parent or placement of a child for adoption based on race, color, or

Kara McCraw  
Director



Legislative Analysis  
Division  
919-733-2578

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national origin of the adoptive parent(s) or the child. An adoptive parents' refusal, unwillingness, or lack of support to enable the child to engage in gender transition would also be a prohibited reason for denying or delaying approval to adopt or placement for adoption. This section would become effective when it becomes law and apply to petitions and placements to adopt and opportunities to become an adoptive parent requested, filed, or submitted before, on, or after that date.

**Sections 3.(a) and (b).** G.S. 131D-10.1(a)(1) promotes that in the provision of foster care, the foster home should be free from violence, abuse, neglect, and danger. The act would clarify that raising a child consistent with the child's biological sex would not violate this provision.

G.S. 131D-10.1(a1) prohibits an agency or other State entity from denying or delaying approval as a foster parent or placement in foster care based on race, color, or national origin. A foster parents' refusal, unwillingness, or lack of support to enable the child to engage in gender transition would also be a prohibited reason for denying or delaying approval to foster or placement in foster care.

This section would become effective when it becomes law and apply to placements in foster care and opportunities to provide foster care requested, filed, or submitted before, on, or after that date.

**Sections 4.(a), (b), and (c).** G.S. 14-318.2 (Child abuse a misdemeanor) and G.S. 14-318.4 (Child abuse a felony) would be amended to clarify that a parent or other person providing care or supervision of a child less than 18 years old who is raising or referring to the child consistent with the child's biological sex would not be guilty of misdemeanor or felony child abuse. G.S. 14-318.4(d)(2) would be amended to clarify that serious mental injury does not include a parent raising a child consistent with the child's biological sex. These changes would not authorize or allow any other acts or omissions that are a violation under the statutes. These sections would become effective July 1, 2025, and apply to offenses committed before, on, or after this date.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Except as otherwise provided, this act would become effective when it becomes law.