

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 1530

LCO No. **6549**

Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by: (GAE)

AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND THE PROVISION OF REPRODUCTIVE AND GENDER-AFFIRMING HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO PATIENTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 4-38j of the general statutes is repealed and the
 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3 The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and each 4 department head, as defined by section 4-5, shall, upon request, (1) 5 submit to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having 6 cognizance of matters relating to government administration, 7 organization and reorganization a report [upon request,] on the 8 progress and implementation of reorganization, and [upon request shall 9 also] (2) furnish to the committee any information concerning 10 reorganization or appear before the committee to provide such 11 information as may be determined by the chairpersons of said 12 committee.

13 Sec. 2. Section 52-571m of the general statutes is repealed and the

14 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

15 (a) As used in this section:

16 (1) "Reproductive health care services" includes all medical, surgical, 17 counseling or referral services relating to the human reproductive 18 system, including, but not limited to, services relating to pregnancy, 19 fertility, contraception or the termination of a pregnancy; [and all 20 medical care relating to treatment of gender dysphoria as set forth in the 21 most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's 22 "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders" and gender 23 incongruence, as defined in the most recent revision of the 24 "International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health 25 Problems"; and]

(2) "Gender-affirming health care services" means all medical care
related to the treatment of gender dysphoria as set forth in the most
recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and
Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders" and gender incongruence, as
defined in the most recent revision of the "International Statistical
Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems"; and

32 [(2)] (3) "Person" includes an individual, a partnership, an association,
33 a limited liability company or a corporation.

34 (b) When any person has had [a judgment entered] an action filed 35 against such person, in any state, where liability, in whole or in part, is 36 based on the alleged provision, receipt, assistance in receipt or 37 provision, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several 38 or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, for reproductive health care 39 services or gender-affirming health care services that are permitted 40 under the laws of this state, regardless of whether the patient was 41 physically located in this state at the time the services were provided, 42 such person may recover damages from any party that brought the 43 action [leading to that judgment] or has sought to enforce [that] <u>a</u> 44 judgment based upon such action. Recoverable damages shall include:

(1) Just damages created by the action [that led to that judgment,] in the
<u>other state</u>, including, but not limited to, money damages in the amount
of the judgment in that other state and costs, expenses and reasonable
attorney's fees spent in defending the action; [that resulted in the entry
of a judgment in another state;] and (2) costs, expenses and reasonable
attorney's fees incurred in bringing an action under this section as may
be allowed by the court.

52 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to [a judgment 53 entered in another state that is based on:] (1) [An] an action in another 54 state founded in tort, contract or statute, and for which a similar claim 55 would exist under the laws of this state, brought by the patient who 56 received the reproductive health care services or gender-affirming 57 health care services upon which the original lawsuit was based or the 58 patient's authorized legal representative, for damages suffered by the 59 patient or damages derived from an individual's loss of consortium of 60 the patient; (2) an action in another state founded in contract, and for 61 which a similar claim would exist under the laws of this state, brought 62 or sought to be enforced by a party with a contractual relationship with 63 the person that is the subject of the judgment entered in another state; 64 or (3) an action <u>in another state</u> where no part of the acts that formed the 65 basis for liability occurred in this state.

66 Sec. 3. Section 52-146w of the general statutes is repealed and the 67 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

68 (a) Except as provided in sections 52-146c to 52-146k, inclusive, 69 sections 52-1460, 52-146p, 52-146q and 52-146s and subsection (b) of this 70 section, in any civil action or any proceeding preliminary thereto or in 71 any probate, legislative or administrative proceeding, no covered entity 72 or business associate, as such terms are defined in 45 CFR 160.103, shall 73 disclose (1) any communication made to such covered entity or business 74 associate, or any information obtained by such covered entity or 75 business associate from, a patient or the conservator, guardian or other 76 authorized legal representative of a patient relating to reproductive

77 health care services or gender-affirming health care services, as defined 78 in section 52-571m, as amended by this act, that are permitted under the laws of this state and provided to a patient physically located in this 79 state at the time the services were provided, or (2) any information 80 81 obtained by personal examination of a patient relating to [reproductive 82 health care services, as defined in section 52-571m] such services, that 83 are permitted under the laws of this state, and provided to a patient 84 physically located in this state at the time the services were provided, 85 unless the patient or that patient's conservator, guardian or other authorized legal representative explicitly consents in writing to such 86 87 disclosure. A covered entity shall inform the patient or the patient's 88 conservator, guardian or other authorized legal representative of the 89 patient's right to withhold such written consent. A covered entity or 90 business associate that receives a request for patient information related 91 to reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care 92 services subject to the provisions of this section that is not exempted 93 under subsection (b) of this section and is not accompanied by the 94 written consent of the patient or the conservator, guardian or other 95 authorized legal representative of the patient, shall provide notice of the request to the office of the Attorney General not later than seven days 96 97 after receipt of the request. The notice shall not contain any information 98 that identifies the patient or the conservator, guardian or other 99 authorized legal representative of the patient.

100 (b) Written consent of the patient or the patient's conservator, guardian or other authorized legal representative shall not be required 101 102 for the disclosure of such communication or information (1) pursuant to 103 the laws of this state or the rules of court prescribed by the Judicial 104 Branch, (2) by a covered entity or business associate against whom a 105 claim has been made, or there is a reasonable belief will be made, in such 106 action or proceeding, to the covered entity's or business associate's 107 attorney or professional liability insurer or such insurer's agent for use 108 in the defense of such action or proceeding, (3) to the Commissioner of 109 Public Health for records of a patient of a covered entity in connection

with an investigation of a complaint, if such records are related to the complaint, or (4) if child abuse, abuse of an elderly individual, abuse of an individual who is physically disabled or incompetent or abuse of an individual with intellectual disability is known or in good faith suspected.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to impede the lawful sharing of medical records as permitted by state or federal law or the rules of the court prescribed by the Judicial Branch, except in the case of a subpoena commanding the production, copying or inspection of medical records relating to reproductive health care services <u>or gender-</u> <u>affirming health care services</u>, as defined in section 52-571m<u>, as</u> <u>amended by this act</u>.

Sec. 4. Section 19a-17e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) As used in this section, "reproductive health care services" [has]
 <u>and "gender-affirming health care services" have</u> the same [meaning]
 meanings as provided in section 52-571m, as amended by this act.

127 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of section 19a-128 14, the Department of Public Health shall not deny the eligibility of an 129 applicant for a (1) permit, (2) license by examination, endorsement or 130 reciprocity, or (3) reinstatement of a license (A) voided pursuant to the 131 provisions of subsection (f) of section 19a-88, (B) voluntarily 132 surrendered, or (C) by agreement, not renewed or reinstated pursuant 133 to the provisions of subsection (d) of section 19a-17 based on pending 134 disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint or the imposition of disciplinary action against the applicant by a duly authorized 135 136 professional disciplinary agency of another state, the District of 137 Columbia or a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United 138 States that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, 139 assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory 140 of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom,

141 reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care 142 services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were 143 provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such 144 services, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was 145 [a resident of] physically located in this state at the time the services 146 were provided. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply where 147 the underlying conduct of the applicant would constitute the basis of 148 disciplinary action against the applicant under the laws of this state if 149 the applicant had been licensed or permitted in this state and the 150 conduct had occurred in this state.

151 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 19a-17, a board or 152 commission established under title 20 that has jurisdiction over persons 153 licensed, certified or registered under said title who provide 154 reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care 155 services, and the Department of Public Health, with respect to 156 professions under the department's jurisdiction that are not subject to 157 discipline by such a board or commission, shall not impose disciplinary 158 action against a licensed, certified or registered person based on 159 pending disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint or the imposition 160 of disciplinary action against such persons before or by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, the District 161 162 of Columbia, or a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United 163 States that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, 164 assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory 165 of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care 166 167 services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were 168 provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such 169 services, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was 170 [a resident of] physically located in this state at the time the services 171 were provided. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply where 172 the underlying conduct of the licensed, certified or registered person 173 would constitute the basis of disciplinary action against such person 174 under the laws of this state if the conduct had occurred in this state.

175 Sec. 5. Section 19a-567 of the general statutes is repealed and the 176 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

177 (a) As used in this section, (1) "credentialing" means the process of 178 assessing and validating the qualifications of a health care provider 179 applying to be approved to provide treatment, care or services in or for an institution, (2) "health care provider" means a person licensed 180 pursuant to title 20 who provides reproductive health care services, (3) 181 182 "institution" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-490, (4) 183 "privileging" means the process of authorizing a health care provider to 184 provide specific treatment, care or services at an institution, and (5) 185 "reproductive health care services" [has] and "gender-affirming health 186 <u>care services</u>" have the same [meaning] <u>meanings</u> as provided in section 187 52-571m, as amended by this act.

188 (b) An institution shall not revoke, suspend, reprimand, penalize, 189 refuse to issue or renew credentials or privileges or take any other 190 adverse action against a health care provider with respect to 191 credentialing or privileging based solely on the alleged provision of, 192 receipt of, assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or 193 any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived 194 therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health 195 care services that (1) are permitted under the laws of this state, (2) were 196 provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such 197 services, and (3) were provided by the health care provider (A) before 198 the date on which the health care provider entered an employment 199 relationship with the institution, or (B) outside the scope of the health 200 care provider's employment with the institution, regardless of whether 201 the patient receiving such services was [a resident of] physically located 202 in this state at the time the services were provided.

(c) An institution shall not revoke, suspend, reprimand, penalize,refuse to issue or renew credentials or privileges or take any other

205 adverse action against a health care provider based on pending 206 disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint or the imposition of 207 disciplinary action against the applicant by a duly authorized 208 professional disciplinary agency of another state, the District of 209 Columbia, or a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United 210 States that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, 211 assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory 212 of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, 213 reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care 214 services that (1) are permitted under the laws of this state, (2) were 215 provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such 216 services, and (3) were provided by the health care provider (A) before 217 the date on which the health care provider entered an employment 218 relationship with the institution, or (B) outside the scope of the health 219 care provider's employment with the institution, regardless of whether 220 the patient receiving such services was [a resident of] physically located 221 in this state at the time the services were provided.

222 (d) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to prevent an 223 institution from taking any of the actions described in subsections (b) 224 and (c) of this section against a health care provider for conduct that (1) 225 does not conform to the standards of care for the provider's profession, 226 (2) is illegal under the laws of this state, or (3) violates policies or rules 227 of the institution that define the scope of services provided by the 228 institution if (A) such conduct occurs within the scope of the health care 229 provider's employment with, or delivery of care at, the institution, and 230 (B) the institution's enforcement of such policies or rules is not otherwise 231 prohibited by law or regulation.

Sec. 6. Section 20-579a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) As used in this section, "reproductive health care services" [has]
 <u>and "gender-affirming health care services" have</u> the same [meaning]
 meanings as provided in section 52-571m, as amended by this act.

237 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, the Commissioner 238 of Consumer Protection and the Commission of Pharmacy shall not 239 deny the eligibility of an applicant for a license, permit or registration 240 under this chapter based on pending disciplinary action, an unresolved 241 complaint or the imposition of disciplinary action against the applicant 242 by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, 243 the District of Columbia or a commonwealth, territory or possession of 244 the United States that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt 245 of, assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any 246 theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived 247 therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health 248 <u>care services</u> that are permitted under the laws of this state and were 249 provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such 250 services, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was 251 [a resident of] <u>physically located in</u> this state <u>at the time the services</u> 252 were provided. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply where 253 the underlying conduct of the applicant would constitute the basis of 254 disciplinary action against the applicant under the laws of this state if 255 the applicant had been licensed, permitted or registered in this state and 256 the conduct had occurred in this state.

257 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, the Commissioner 258 of Consumer Protection and the Commission of Pharmacy shall not 259 impose disciplinary action against any person licensed, permitted or 260 registered pursuant to the provisions of this chapter based on pending 261 disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint or the imposition of 262 disciplinary action against the applicant by a duly authorized 263 professional disciplinary agency of another state, the District of Columbia, or a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United 264 265 States that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, 266 assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory 267 of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care 268 269 services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were

270 provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such 271 services, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was 272 [a resident of] physically located in this state at the time the services 273 were provided. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply where 274 the underlying conduct of the person licensed, permitted or registered 275 would constitute the basis of disciplinary action against such person 276 under the laws of this state if such person had been licensed, permitted 277 or registered in this state and the conduct had occurred in this state.

Sec. 7. Section 38a-835 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) As used in this section, (1) "health care provider" means a person
licensed pursuant to title 20 who provides reproductive health care
services, (2) "insurer" means an insurer that insures a health care
provider against professional liability, and (3) "reproductive health care
services" [has] and "gender-affirming health care services" have the
same [meaning] meanings as provided in section 52-571m, as amended
by this act.

(b) An insurer shall not take any adverse action, including, but not
limited to, denial or revocation of coverage, sanctions, fines, penalties or
rate increases against a health care provider, if such action is based
solely on:

291 (1) Such health care provider's alleged provision of, receipt of, 292 assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory 293 of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, 294 reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care 295 services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were 296 provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such 297 services, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was 298 [a resident of] physically located in this state at the time the services 299 were provided; or

300 (2) Pending disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint or the

301 imposition of disciplinary action against such health care provider by a 302 duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, the 303 District of Columbia, or a commonwealth, territory or possession of the 304 United States that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, 305 assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory 306 of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, 307 reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care 308 services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were 309 provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such 310 services, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was 311 [a resident of] physically located in this state at the time the services 312 were provided.

Sec. 8. Section 52-155a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

315 Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 52-155 and 52-657, a 316 judge, justice of the peace, notary public or commissioner of the 317 Superior Court shall not issue a subpoena requested by a commissioner, 318 appointed according to the laws or usages of any other state or 319 government, or by any court of the United States or of any other state or 320 government, when such subpoena relates to reproductive health care 321 services or gender-affirming health care services, as defined in section 322 52-571m, as amended by this act, that are permitted under the laws of 323 this state, unless the subpoena relates to: (1) An out-of-state action 324 founded in tort, contract or statute, for which a similar claim would exist 325 under the laws of this state, brought by a patient or the patient's 326 authorized legal representative, for damages suffered by the patient or 327 damages derived from an individual's loss of consortium of the patient; 328 or (2) an out-of-state action founded in contract, and for which a similar 329 claim would exist under the laws of this state, brought or sought to be 330 enforced by a party with a contractual relationship with the person that 331 is the subject of the subpoena requested by a commissioner appointed 332 according to the laws or usages of another state.

Sec. 9. Subsection (b) of section 54-82i of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*1, 2025):

336 (b) If a judge of a court of record in any state which by its laws has 337 made provision for commanding persons within that state to attend and 338 testify in this state certifies, under the seal of such court, that there is a 339 criminal prosecution pending in such court, or that a grand jury 340 investigation has commenced or is about to commence, that a person 341 being within this state is a material witness in such prosecution or grand 342 jury investigation and that the presence of such witness will be required 343 for a specified number of days, upon presentation of such certificate to 344 any judge of a court of record in the judicial district in which such 345 person is, such judge shall fix a time and place for a hearing and shall 346 make an order directing the witness to appear at such time and place for 347 such hearing. If, at such hearing, the judge determines that the witness 348 is material and necessary, that it will not cause undue hardship to the 349 witness to be compelled to attend and testify in the prosecution or a 350 grand jury investigation in the other state and that the laws of such other 351 state and the laws of any other state through which the witness may be 352 required to pass by ordinary course of travel will give to such witness 353 protection from arrest and from the service of civil or criminal process, 354 the judge shall issue a summons, with a copy of the certificate attached, 355 directing the witness to attend and testify in the court where the 356 prosecution is pending, or where a grand jury investigation has 357 commenced or is about to commence at a time and place specified in the 358 summons, except that no judge shall issue a summons in a case where 359 prosecution is pending, or where a grand jury investigation has 360 commenced or is about to commence for a criminal violation of a law of 361 such other state involving the provision or receipt of or assistance with reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care 362 363 services, as defined in section [52-571n] 52-571m, as amended by this 364 act, that are legal in this state, regardless of whether the patient was 365 physically located in this state at the time the services were provided,

366 unless the acts forming the basis of the prosecution or investigation 367 would also constitute an offense in this state. At any such hearing, the 368 certificate shall be prima facie evidence of all the facts stated therein. If 369 such certificate recommends that the witness be taken into immediate 370 custody and delivered to an officer of the requesting state to assure the 371 attendance of the witness in such state, such judge may, in lieu of 372 notification of the hearing, direct that such witness be forthwith brought 373 before such judge for such hearing, and, being satisfied, at such hearing, 374 of the desirability of such custody and delivery, of which desirability 375 such certificate shall be prima facie proof, may, in lieu of issuing a 376 subpoena or summons, order that such witness be forthwith taken into 377 custody and delivered to an officer of the requesting state. If such 378 witness, after being paid or tendered by an authorized person the same 379 amount per mile as provided for state employees pursuant to section 5-380 141c for each mile by the ordinary traveled route to and from the court 381 where the prosecution is pending and five dollars each day that such 382 witness is required to travel and attend as a witness, fails, without good 383 cause, to attend and testify as directed in the summons, the witness shall 384 be punished in the manner provided for the punishment of any witness 385 who disobeys a summons issued from a court of record in this state.

Sec. 10. Section 54-155a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

388 No public agency, as defined in section 1-200, or employee, 389 appointee, officer or official or any other person acting on behalf of a 390 public agency may provide any information or expend or use time, 391 money, facilities, property, equipment, personnel or other resources in 392 furtherance of any interstate investigation or proceeding or unless 393 pursuant to a court order, any federal investigation or proceeding, 394 seeking to impose civil or criminal liability upon a person or entity for 395 (1) the provision, seeking or receipt of or inquiring about reproductive 396 health care services or gender-affirming health care services, as defined 397 in section 52-571m, as amended by this act, that are legal in this state, or 398 (2) assisting any person or entity providing, seeking, receiving or

399 responding to an inquiry about reproductive health care services or 400 gender-affirming health care services, as defined in section 52-571m, as 401 amended by this act, that are legal in this state, regardless of whether 402 the patient was physically located in this state at the time the services 403 were provided. This section shall not apply to any investigation or 404 proceeding where the conduct subject to potential liability under the 405 investigation or proceeding would be subject to liability under the laws 406 of this state if committed in this state.

Sec. 11. Subdivision (17) of section 42-515 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*1, 2025):

(17) "Gender-affirming health care services" has the same meaning as
provided in section [52-571n] <u>52-571m, as amended by this act</u>.

412 Sec. 12. Sections 52-146x, 52-155b, 52-571n and 54-155b of the general

413 statutes are repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2025*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2025	4-38j
Sec. 2	October 1, 2025	52-571m
Sec. 3	October 1, 2025	52-146w
Sec. 4	October 1, 2025	19a-17e
Sec. 5	October 1, 2025	19a-567
Sec. 6	October 1, 2025	20-579a
Sec. 7	October 1, 2025	38a-835
Sec. 8	October 1, 2025	52-155a
Sec. 9	October 1, 2025	54-82i(b)
Sec. 10	October 1, 2025	54-155a
Sec. 11	October 1, 2025	42-515(17)
Sec. 12	October 1, 2025	Repealer section

Statement of Purpose:

To make a technical change to a statute concerning government administration and to provide protections to health care providers who provide reproductive and gender-affirming health care services to patients, regardless of whether the patients are physically located in this state at the time the services are provided.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]