

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Substitute Bill No. 1530



AN ACT CONCERNING A TECHNICAL CHANGE TO A PROVISION CONCERNING GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND THE PROVISION OF REPRODUCTIVE AND GENDER-AFFIRMING HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO PATIENTS REGARDLESS OF LOCATION.

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 Section 4-38j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):
- The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and each
- 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 Section 52-571m of the general statutes is repealed and the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,

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- 17 counseling or referral services relating to the human reproductive
- 18 system, including, but not limited to, services relating to pregnancy,
- 19 <u>fertility</u>, 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]
- 26 (2) "Gender-affirming health care services" means all medical care
- 27 related to the treatment of gender dysphoria as set forth in the most
- 28 recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and
- 29 Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders" and gender incongruence, as
- 30 <u>defined in the most recent revision of the "International Statistical</u>
- 31 Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems"; and
- 32 [(2)] (3) "Person" includes an individual, a partnership, an association,
- 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, <u>regardless of whether the patient was</u>
- 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
- action [leading to that judgment] or has sought to enforce [that] a
- 44 judgment <u>based upon such action</u>. Recoverable damages shall include:
- 45 (1) Just damages created by the action [that led to that judgment,] in the
- 46 <u>other state</u>, including, but not limited to, money damages in the amount
- 47 of the judgment in that other state and costs, expenses and reasonable
- 48 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

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attorney's fees incurred in bringing an action under this section as may be allowed by the court.

- (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to [a judgment entered in another state that is based on:] (1) [An] <u>an</u> action <u>in another state</u> founded in tort, contract or statute, and for which a similar claim would exist under the laws of this state, brought by the patient who received the reproductive health care services <u>or gender-affirming health care services</u> upon which the original lawsuit was based or the patient's authorized legal representative, for damages suffered by the patient or damages derived from an individual's loss of consortium of the patient; (2) an action <u>in another state</u> founded in contract, and for which a similar claim would exist under the laws of this state, brought or sought to be enforced by a party with a contractual relationship with the person that is the subject of the judgment entered in another state; or (3) an action <u>in another state</u> where no part of the acts that formed the basis for liability occurred in this state.
- Sec. 3. Section 52-146w of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):
 - (a) Except as provided in sections 52-146c to 52-146k, inclusive, sections 52-146o, 52-146p, 52-146q and 52-146s and subsection (b) of this section, in any civil action or any proceeding preliminary thereto or in any probate, legislative or administrative proceeding, no covered entity or business associate, as such terms are defined in 45 CFR 160.103, shall disclose (1) any communication made to such covered entity or business associate, or any information obtained by such covered entity or business associate from, a patient or the conservator, guardian or other authorized legal representative of a patient relating to reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services, as defined 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 state at the time the services were provided, or (2) any information obtained by personal examination of a patient relating to [reproductive health care services, as defined in section 52-571m] such services, that

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are permitted under the laws of this state, and provided to a patient physically located in this state at the time the services were provided, unless the patient or that patient's conservator, guardian or other authorized legal representative explicitly consents in writing to such disclosure. A covered entity shall inform the patient or the patient's conservator, guardian or other authorized legal representative of the patient's right to withhold such written consent. A covered entity or business associate that receives a request for patient information related to reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services subject to the provisions of this section that is not exempted under subsection (b) of this section and is not accompanied by the written consent of the patient or the conservator, guardian or other authorized legal representative of the patient, shall provide notice of the request to the office of the Attorney General not later than seven days after receipt of the request. The notice shall not contain any information that identifies the patient or the conservator, guardian or other authorized legal representative of the patient.

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

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- 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 or gender-
- 120 <u>affirming health care services</u>, as defined in section 52-571m, as
- 121 <u>amended by this act</u>.

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- Sec. 4. Section 19a-17e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1*, 2025):
- 124 (a) As used in this section, "reproductive health care services" [has]
 125 <u>and "gender-affirming health care services" have</u> the same [meaning]
 126 meanings as provided in section 52-571m, as amended by this act.
 - (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of section 19a-14, the Department of Public Health shall not deny the eligibility of an applicant for a (1) permit, (2) license by examination, endorsement or reciprocity, or (3) reinstatement of a license (A) voided pursuant to the provisions of subsection (f) of section 19a-88, (B) voluntarily surrendered, or (C) by agreement, not renewed or reinstated pursuant to the provisions of subsection (d) of section 19a-17 based on pending disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint or the imposition of disciplinary action against the applicant by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, the District of Columbia or a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such services, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was [a resident of] physically located in this state at the time the services were provided. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply where the underlying conduct of the applicant would constitute the basis of disciplinary action against the applicant under the laws of this state if the applicant had been licensed or permitted in this state and the

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150 conduct had occurred in this state.

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- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 19a-17, a board or commission established under title 20 that has jurisdiction over persons licensed, certified or registered under said title who provide reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services, and the Department of Public Health, with respect to professions under the department's jurisdiction that are not subject to discipline by such a board or commission, shall not impose disciplinary action against a licensed, certified or registered person based on pending disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint or the imposition of disciplinary action against such persons before or by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, the District of Columbia, or a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such services, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was [a resident of] physically located in this state at the time the services were provided. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply where the underlying conduct of the licensed, certified or registered person would constitute the basis of disciplinary action against such person under the laws of this state if the conduct had occurred in this state.
- Sec. 5. Section 19a-567 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) "credentialing" means the process of assessing and validating the qualifications of a health care provider applying to be approved to provide treatment, care or services in or for an institution, (2) "health care provider" means a person licensed pursuant to title 20 who provides reproductive health care services, (3) "institution" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-490, (4)

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"privileging" means the process of authorizing a health care provider to provide specific treatment, care or services at an institution, and (5) "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 institution shall not revoke, suspend, reprimand, penalize, refuse to issue or renew credentials or privileges or take any other adverse action against a health care provider with respect to credentialing or privileging based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services that (1) are permitted under the laws of this state, (2) were provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such services, and (3) were provided by the health care provider (A) before the date on which the health care provider entered an employment relationship with the institution, or (B) outside the scope of the health care provider's employment with the institution, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was [a resident of] physically located 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 adverse action against a health care provider based on pending disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint or the imposition of disciplinary action against the applicant by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, the District of Columbia, or a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services that (1) are permitted under the laws of this state, (2) were provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such services, and (3) were provided by the health care provider (A) before

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the date on which the health care provider entered an employment relationship with the institution, or (B) outside the scope of the health care provider's employment with the institution, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was [a resident of] physically located in this state at the time the services were provided.

- (d) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to prevent an institution from taking any of the actions described in subsections (b) and (c) of this section against a health care provider for conduct that (1) does not conform to the standards of care for the provider's profession, (2) is illegal under the laws of this state, or (3) violates policies or rules of the institution that define the scope of services provided by the institution if (A) such conduct occurs within the scope of the health care provider's employment with, or delivery of care at, the institution, and (B) the institution's enforcement of such policies or rules is not otherwise 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] and "gender-affirming health care services" have the same [meaning] meanings as provided in section 52-571m, as amended by this act.
 - (b) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection and the Commission of Pharmacy shall not deny the eligibility of an applicant for a license, permit or registration under this chapter based on pending disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint or the imposition of disciplinary action against the applicant by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, the District of Columbia or a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were

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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] physically located in this state at the time the services 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.

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- (c) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection and the Commission of Pharmacy shall not impose disciplinary action against any person licensed, permitted or registered pursuant to the provisions of this chapter based on pending disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint or the imposition of disciplinary action against the applicant by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, the District of Columbia, or a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such services, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was [a resident of] physically located in this state at the time the services were provided. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply where the underlying conduct of the person licensed, permitted or registered would constitute the basis of disciplinary action against such person under the laws of this state if such person had been licensed, permitted 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

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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:
- (1) Such health care provider's alleged provision of, receipt of, assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such services, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was [a resident of] physically located in this state at the time the services were provided; or
- (2) Pending disciplinary action, an unresolved complaint or the imposition of disciplinary action against such health care provider by a duly authorized professional disciplinary agency of another state, the District of Columbia, or a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States that is based solely on the alleged provision of, receipt of, assistance in provision or receipt of, material support for, or any theory of vicarious, joint, several or conspiracy liability derived therefrom, reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services that are permitted under the laws of this state and were provided in accordance with the standard of care applicable to such services, regardless of whether the patient receiving such services was [a resident of] physically located in this state at the time the services were provided.
- Sec. 8. Section 52-155a of the general statutes is repealed and the

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

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

(b) (1) If a judge of a court of record in any state which by its laws has made provision for commanding persons within that state to attend and testify in this state certifies, under the seal of such court, that there is a criminal prosecution pending in such court, or that a grand jury investigation has commenced or is about to commence, that a person being within this state is a material witness in such prosecution or grand jury investigation and that the presence of such witness will be required for a specified number of days, upon presentation of such certificate to any judge of a court of record in the judicial district in which such person is, such judge shall fix a time and place for a hearing and shall make an order directing the witness to appear at such time and place for

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such hearing.

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(2) If, at such hearing, the judge determines that the witness is material and necessary, that it will not cause undue hardship to the witness to be compelled to attend and testify in the prosecution or a grand jury investigation in the other state and that the laws of such other state and the laws of any other state through which the witness may be required to pass by ordinary course of travel will give to such witness protection from arrest and from the service of civil or criminal process, the judge shall issue a summons, with a copy of the certificate attached, directing the witness to attend and testify in the court where the prosecution is pending, or where a grand jury investigation has commenced or is about to commence at a time and place specified in the summons, except that no judge shall issue a summons in a case where prosecution is pending, or where a grand jury investigation has commenced or is about to commence for a criminal violation of a law of such other state involving the provision or receipt of or assistance with reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services, as defined in section [52-571n] 52-571m, as amended by this act, that are legal in this state, regardless of whether the patient was physically located in this state at the time the services were provided, unless the acts forming the basis of the prosecution or investigation would also constitute an offense in this state.

(3) At any such hearing, the certificate shall be prima facie evidence of all the facts stated therein. If such certificate recommends that the witness be taken into immediate custody and delivered to an officer of the requesting state to assure the attendance of the witness in such state, such judge may, in lieu of notification of the hearing, direct that such witness be forthwith brought before such judge for such hearing, and, being satisfied, at such hearing, of the desirability of such custody and delivery, of which desirability such certificate shall be prima facie proof, may, in lieu of issuing a subpoena or summons, order that such witness be forthwith taken into custody and delivered to an officer of the requesting state.

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(4) If such witness, after being paid or tendered by an authorized person the same amount per mile as provided for state employees pursuant to section 5-141c for each mile by the ordinary traveled route to and from the court where the prosecution is pending and five dollars each day that such witness is required to travel and attend as a witness, fails, without good cause, to attend and testify as directed in the summons, the witness shall be punished in the manner provided for the punishment of any witness who disobeys a summons issued from a court of record in this state.

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

No public agency, as defined in section 1-200, or employee, appointee, officer or official or any other person acting on behalf of a public agency, may provide any information or expend or use time, money, facilities, property, equipment, personnel or other resources in furtherance of any interstate investigation or proceeding or unless pursuant to a court order, any federal investigation or proceeding, seeking to impose civil or criminal liability upon a person or entity for (1) the provision, seeking or receipt of or inquiring about reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services, as defined in section 52-571m, as amended by this act, that are legal in this state, or (2) assisting any person or entity providing, seeking, receiving or responding to an inquiry about reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services, as defined in section 52-571m, as amended by this act, that are legal in this state, regardless of whether the patient was physically located in this state at the time the services were provided. This section shall not apply to any investigation or proceeding where the conduct subject to potential liability under the investigation or proceeding would be subject to liability under the laws 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):

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- 413 (17) "Gender-affirming health care services" has the same meaning as 414 provided in section [52-571n] <u>52-571m</u>, as amended by this act.
- Sec. 12. Sections 52-146x, 52-155b, 52-571n and 54-155b of the general 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 Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 9(b), subdivision designators (1) to (4), inclusive, were added for consistency with standard drafting conventions.

GAE Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO

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