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## OLR Bill Analysis

**sHB 7213 (as amended by House "A")\***

### ***AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill allows minors (under age 18) to give consent for services, examination, or treatment related to pregnancy and pregnancy prevention without the consent or notification of their parents or guardian. These services specifically include contraceptive counseling and services, prenatal care, and appropriate care and pain management during labor and delivery (e.g., epidural administration), but not sterilization.

The bill prohibits physicians and other health care providers from sharing any information about these services or a related consultation (including sending a bill) with the minor's parent or guardian without the minor's express consent.

Additionally, under the bill:

1. these provisions do not affect a provider's obligation to make a report to the departments of public health (DPH) or children and families (DCF), or any other report or disclosure, that may be required under state law and
2. a parent or guardian who was not informed of these services is not liable to pay for them.

\*House Amendment "A" eliminates provisions in the underlying bill (File 688) (1) repealing DPH regulations on abortions and abortion clinics, and the statutory authorization for abortion clinic regulations and (2) requiring the secretary of the state, by October 1, 2025, to update the e-Regulations system to remove these regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Medical Treatment Without Parental Consent***

Existing law does not require parental consent to treat a minor under the following conditions:

1. treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (if the minor is age 12 or younger, the treating facility must report his or her name to DCF for investigating child abuse) (CGS § 19a-216);
2. alcohol and drug treatment (CGS § 17a-688);
3. HIV testing (CGS § 19a-582);
4. HIV or AIDS prophylaxis or treatment if the provider determines that (a) notifying the parents will result in denial of prophylaxis or treatment or (b) the minor will not start or continue prophylaxis or treatment if the parents are notified and the minor requests they not be notified (if the minor is age 12 or younger, the treating provider must report his or her name to DCF for investigating child abuse) (CGS § 19a-592);
5. abortion and abortion counseling (minors under 16 generally must receive counseling before an abortion) (CGS § 19a-601); and
6. outpatient mental health treatment (not including prescribing legend drugs) under certain circumstances (CGS § 19a-14c).

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19      Nay 11      (03/27/2025)