



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

**Raised Bill No. 5516**

LCO No. 2740



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:  
(PH)

**AN ACT CONCERNING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) As used in this section and  
2 sections 2 and 3 of this act:

3 (1) "Gender-affirming health care services" means all medical care  
4 relating to the treatment of (A) gender dysphoria, as set forth in the most  
5 recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and  
6 Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders", and (B) gender incongruence,  
7 as defined in the most recent revision of the "International Statistical  
8 Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems";

9 (2) "Health care entity" means an entity that supervises, controls,  
10 grants privileges to, directs the practice of or directly, or indirectly,  
11 restricts the practice of a health care provider;

12 (3) "Health care provider" means a person who (A) provides health  
13 care services, (B) is licensed, certified or registered pursuant to title 20  
14 of the general statutes, and (C) is employed by or acting on behalf of a  
15 health care entity;

16 (4) "Medically accurate and appropriate information and counseling"  
17 means information and counseling that is (A) supported by the weight  
18 of current scientific evidence, (B) derived from research using accepted  
19 scientific methods, (C) consistent with generally recognized scientific  
20 theory, (D) published in peer-reviewed journals, as appropriate, and (E)  
21 recognized as accurate, complete, objective and in accordance with the  
22 accepted standard of care by professional organizations and agencies  
23 with expertise in the relevant field; and

24 (5) "Reproductive health care services" means all medical, surgical,  
25 counseling or referral services relating to the human reproductive  
26 system, including, but not limited to, services relating to sexual health,  
27 pregnancy, contraception or the termination of a pregnancy.

28 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) Except as provided in  
29 subsection (b) of this section, if a health care provider is acting in good  
30 faith, within the health care provider's scope of practice, education,  
31 training and experience, including the health care provider's specialty  
32 areas of practice and board certification, and within the accepted  
33 standard of care, a health care entity shall not limit the health care  
34 provider's provision of the following with regard to reproductive health  
35 care services and gender-affirming health care services:

36 (1) Comprehensive medically accurate and appropriate information  
37 and counseling that conforms to the accepted standard of care to an  
38 individual patient regarding that patient's health status, including, but  
39 not limited to, diagnosis, prognosis, recommended treatment, treatment  
40 alternatives and any potential risks to the patient's health or life; and

41 (2) Comprehensive medically accurate and appropriate information  
42 and counseling about available and relevant services and resources in  
43 the community and how to access such services and resources to obtain  
44 health care of the patient's choosing.

45 (b) Nothing in subsection (a) of this section shall be construed to  
46 prohibit a health care entity that employs a health care provider from

47 (1) performing relevant peer review of the health care provider, (2)  
48 requiring the health care provider to provide the full range of  
49 information to patients about available, legal options for care, as  
50 determined by the health care entity, including, but not limited to,  
51 vaccinations, or (3) requiring such health care provider to:

52 (A) Comply with preferred provider network or utilization review  
53 requirements of any program or entity authorized by state or federal  
54 law to provide insurance coverage for health care services to an enrollee,  
55 including, but not limited to, the conditions of participation for hospitals  
56 developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; or

57 (B) Meet established health care quality and patient safety guidelines  
58 or rules.

59 (c) A health care entity shall not discharge, demote, suspend,  
60 discipline or take any other adverse action against a health care provider  
61 solely because the health care provider has provided information or  
62 counseling as described in subsection (a) of this section. The provisions  
63 of this section shall not apply to a health care provider who fails to  
64 comply with the instruction of a health care entity to provide patients  
65 with the full range of information about available, legal options for care,  
66 as determined by the health care entity, including, but not limited to,  
67 vaccinations.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 2	July 1, 2026	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To prohibit adverse actions against health care providers for providing certain health care services.

*[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.]*