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## Healthcare Laws and Policies: Bans on Best Practice Medical Care for Transgender Youth

No updates required since April 5, 2023 (2pm central)

Bans on best-practice medical care represent one of the most extreme and coordinated political attacks on transgender people in recent years. These bills target transgender youth by blocking their access to best-practice medical care, care that is backed by years of rigorous research and endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Medical Association, and other leading health authorities. These bills not only display a fundamental lack of understanding of transgender children, but they also ban access to medical care often by criminalizing either the doctors or even the parents of transgender youth seeking to provide best-practice medicine for children in their care. For more on these efforts, [read MAP's 2021 spotlight report](#).

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### Alabama

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (ages <19). See [SB184/HB266/Public Act 2022-289](#) (April 2022; effective 30 days later).
  - This law defines minor as “The same meaning as in Section 43-8-1, Code of Alabama 1975.” That [section of Alabama code](#) defines minor as individuals under the age of 19.
- This law also makes providing such care a felony crime, and requires school officials to out children to parents. This is the first state with both such provisions.
- In May 2022, a federal judge [temporarily blocked](#) the part of the state's law that bans medication for transgender youth, though the rest of the law remains in effect for now, including the felony punishment and provisions that require school staff to tell parents if a child expresses thoughts that they might be transgender.

### Alaska

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

### Arizona

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (ages <18). See [SB1138](#) (March 2022, effective March 31, 2023).
- Law bans gender-affirming surgical care for minors, though it does not ban non-surgical forms of care (e.g., hormone-related medication).

### Arkansas

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (ages <18). See [HB1570/Act 626](#) (April 2021), and also [SB199/Act 271](#) (March 2023).
- In July 2021, a federal judge [temporarily blocked](#) Arkansas's 2021 law from going into effect.

### California

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth



#### Colorado

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Connecticut

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Delaware

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### District of Columbia

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Florida

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (“minors,” undefined). See [FL Administrative Code 64B8-9.019](#) (filed February 24, 2023; effective March 16, 2023).
- Rule allows exception for minors who were “being treated with puberty blocking, hormone, or hormone antagonist therapies prior to the effective date of this rule” (March 16, 2023) to continue that medical care.

#### Georgia

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (“minors,” undefined). See [SB140](#) (March 2023).
- Law allows exception for minors who are, prior to July 1, 2023, receiving “hormone replacement therapies” (undefined) to continue receiving that medical care.

#### Hawaiʻi

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Idaho

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (ages <18). See [HB71](#) (April 2023, effective January 1, 2024).
- State law also makes providing such care a felony crime.

#### Illinois

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Indiana

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (ages <18). See [SB480](#) (April 2023, effective July 1, 2023).
- Law also bans any health care professional from “conduct that aids or abets” the provision of best practice medical care for transgender youth.



#### Iowa

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (ages <18). See [SF538](#) (March 2023, effective immediately).
- Law also bans any health care professional from “conduct that aids or abets” the provision of best practice medical care for transgender youth.

#### Kansas

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Kentucky

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (ages <18). See [SB150](#) (March 2023; effective late June 2023, 90 days after legislature adjourns). Youth can still receive care until the law goes into effect in late June 2023.

#### Louisiana

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Maine

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Maryland

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Massachusetts

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Michigan

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Minnesota

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Mississippi

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (ages <18). See [HB1125](#) (Feb 2023, effective immediately).
- State law also bans the use of public funds for any provision of best practice medical care for transgender youth, and bans any person from “conduct that aids or abets” the provision of best practice medical care. This extends the scope of the ban from doctors and medical providers to parents and *any other individual* who might help or participate in getting a transgender minor access to best practice medicine. This is the first state ban on transgender youth medical care that includes the “aids or abets” language.



#### Missouri

- State does not\* ban best practice medical care for transgender youth
- \*However, on March 20, 2023, the state's attorney general [announced](#) he is pursuing "emergency regulation" to ban best practice medical care for transgender youth. He cited no specific legal statute granting him such authority, and the proposed regulation has not yet been issued or promulgated. This effort's legality also remains in question. This map will be updated as this situation unfolds.

#### Montana

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Nebraska

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Nevada

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### New Hampshire

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### New Jersey

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### New Mexico

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### New York

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### North Carolina

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### North Dakota

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Ohio

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth



#### Oklahoma

- State does not\* ban best practice medical care for transgender youth
- \*[SB3](#) (Oct 2022) provided over \$108 million in federal COVID-relief funding to the University of Oklahoma medical system, with the requirement that the system stop providing best practice medical care for transgender youth. The medical system agreed to this requirement. This does not ban best practice medical care statewide, but does reflect a clear effort to limit access to this medically necessary care.

#### Oregon

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Pennsylvania

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Rhode Island

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### South Carolina

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### South Dakota

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (ages <18). See [HB1080](#) (Feb 2023, effective July 1, 2023).
- Law allows minors who have a hormone prescription prior to July 1, 2023, to continue that prescription but only through Dec 31, 2023. Medical providers are expected to “systematically reduce” the prescription over that time period.

#### Tennessee

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (ages <18). See [SB1/HB1](#) (March 2023, effective July 1, 2023).
- Law also bans “a person” (i.e., not only medical providers) from providing hormones or puberty blocking medication to minors, and further specifically bans medical providers out of state from providing care via telehealth to minors in the state.
- Previously, [SB126](#) (2021) prohibited medical providers from providing hormone-related medication to “prepubertal minors” (emphasis added). Best practice medical care for transgender youth can (though does not always) include hormone-related medication, but only once a youth has entered puberty, not prior to it. In other words, this law banned something that did not happen, but it set a dangerous precedent for further restrictions of medical care for transgender youth.



## Texas

- State does not\* ban best practice medical care for transgender youth
- \*However, and as reported by Equality Texas, "On February 18th [2022], in the middle of early voting for the Texas primary elections, Attorney General Ken Paxton released a non-binding opinion grossly mischaracterizing medically necessary, best-practice healthcare for transgender children as child abuse. Shortly after, Governor Abbott sent a letter to the Department of Family Protective Services (DFPS) directing them to enforce Paxton's opinion." These actions do not change the law in Texas and are not legally binding (in fact, their very legality is being directly challenged in court), but they have nonetheless caused harm and even initiated investigations into families of transgender children in the state. These investigations were temporarily halted by a statewide injunction, until a [Texas Supreme Court ruling](#) in May 2022 ended that injunction. However, the Texas Supreme Court also ruled that the governor had no authority to order such investigations. This map will be updated as this case progresses.
- For more information and resources, see the [Transgender Education Network of Texas \(TENT\)](#) and [Equality Texas](#).

## Utah

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (ages <18). See [SB16](#) (Jan 2023, effective immediately).
- This law provides a limited exception for hormone treatment for youth who were "diagnosed with gender dysphoria" prior to the bill's passage, but the law also allows individuals to later retroactively revoke their consent.

## Vermont

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

## Virginia

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

## Washington

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

## West Virginia

- State bans best practice medical care for transgender youth (ages <18). See [HB2007](#) (March 2023, effective January 1, 2024).
- Law allows limited exception for minors to receive hormone medication under a burdensome set of conditions, but this exception does exist. Requirements include an official diagnosis of "severe gender dysphoria" from at least two medical providers, one of whom must be a mental health provider or adolescent medicine specialist, and both with "relevant training." The conditions also require that the medication is "limited to the lowest titratable dosage necessary to treat the psychiatric condition and not for purposes of gender transition," among other requirements/conditions on such care.



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#### Wisconsin

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Wyoming

- State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

### U.S. Territories

#### American Samoa

- Territory does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Guam

- Territory does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Northern Mariana Islands

- Territory does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### Puerto Rico

- Territory does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

#### U.S. Virgin Islands

- Territory does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

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### Order of Laws and Vetoes

#### Order of Laws

(by date of governor signature, veto override, or administrative filing; not by effective date)

#### 2021

1. Arkansas – [HB1570](#) – April 6, 2021 (overriding governor veto)

#### 2022

2. Arizona – [SB1138](#) – March 30, 2022
3. Alabama – [SB184](#) – April 8, 2022

#### 2023

4. Utah – [SB16](#) – January 28, 2023
5. South Dakota – [HB1080](#) – February 14, 2023
6. Florida – [Administrative Code 64B8-9.019](#) – February 24, 2023
7. Mississippi – [HB1125](#) – February 28, 2023
8. Tennessee – [SB1/HB1](#) – March 2, 2023



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Arkansas – [SB199](#) – March 13, 2023

9. Iowa – [SF538](#) – March 22, 2023
10. Georgia – [SB140](#) – March 23, 2023
11. Kentucky – [SB150](#) – March 29, 2023 (overriding governor veto)
12. West Virginia – [HB2007](#) – March 30, 2023
13. Idaho – [HB71](#) – April 4, 2023
14. Indiana – [SB480](#) – April 5, 2023

#### Order of Governor Vetoes

1. Arkansas – [HB1570](#) – April 5, 2021 (later overridden)
2. Kentucky – [SB150](#) – March 24, 2023 (later overridden) (read veto statement [here](#))