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

No updates required since October 10, 2022

Alabama
- State law 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
- Law does not go into effect until 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
- In July 2021, a federal judge temporarily blocked Arkansas's 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 does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth
Georgia
  • State does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

Hawai‘i
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Idaho
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Illinois
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Indiana
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Iowa
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Kansas
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Kentucky
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Louisiana
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Maine
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Maryland
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Massachusetts
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Michigan
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Minnesota
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Mississippi
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Missouri
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Montana
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Nebraska
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Nevada
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New Hampshire
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New Jersey
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New Mexico
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New York
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North Carolina
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North Dakota
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Ohio
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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 does not ban best practice medical care for transgender youth

Tennessee
- State does not* ban best practice medical care for transgender youth
  - *SB126 (2021) prohibits medical providers from providing hormone-related medication to "prepubertal minors" (emphasis added). Best practice medical care for transgender youth can include hormone-related medication, but only once a youth has entered puberty, not prior to it. However, this legislation sets 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 are currently halted by a statewide injunction.
  - For more information and resources, see the Transgender Education Network of Texas (TENT) and Equality Texas.

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

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

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