

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 934 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
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As Engrossed: H3/18/15
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1424

By: Representatives Harris, Lundstrum, *Ballinger, Bentley, Brown, Copeland, Della Rosa, Gates, Ladyman, D. Meeks, Miller, Petty, Rushing, Sullivan, Womack*
By: Senators *Collins-Smith, Hester, G. Stubblefield*

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT
ENHANCEMENT ACT; TO REPEAL THE PARENTAL NOTIFICATION
PROVISIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ESTABLISH THE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT
ENHANCEMENT ACT; AND TO REPEAL THE
PARENTAL NOTIFICATION PROVISIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 16, Subchapter 8 is amended to read as follows:

Subchapter 8 – Abortion – Parental ~~Notification~~ Involvement Enhancement Act

~~20-16-801. Consent required.~~

~~Except as otherwise provided in §§ 20-16-804 and 20-16-805, no person may perform an abortion upon an unemancipated minor or upon a woman for whom a guardian or custodian has been appointed because of a finding of incompetency unless the person or the person's agent first obtains the written consent of either parent or the legal guardian or custodian.~~

~~20-16-802. Definitions.~~

~~As used in this subchapter:~~



~~(1) "Abortion" means the intentional termination of the pregnancy of a woman known to be pregnant with an intention other than to increase the probability of a live birth or to remove a dead or dying fetus;~~

~~(2) "Medical emergency" means a condition that, on the basis of the physician's good faith clinical judgment, so complicates the medical condition of a pregnant woman as to necessitate the immediate abortion of her pregnancy to avert her death or for which a delay will create serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function;~~

~~(3) "Minor" means an individual under eighteen (18) years of age;~~

~~(4) "Parent" means:~~

~~(A) Either parent of the pregnant woman if they are both living;~~

~~(B) One (1) parent of the pregnant woman if only one (1) is living or if the second one cannot be located through reasonably diligent effort; or~~

~~(C) The court-appointed guardian or custodian if the pregnant woman has one; and~~

~~(5) "Unemancipated minor" means a minor who is under the care, custody, and control of her parent or parents.~~

~~20-16-803. Manner of consent.~~

~~(a) The person who performs the abortion or his or her agent shall obtain or be provided with the written consent from either parent or legal guardian.~~

~~(b) The written consent shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:~~

~~(1) The name and birthdate of the minor or incompetent woman;~~

~~(2) The name of the parent or legal guardian;~~

~~(3) A statement from the parent or legal guardian that he or she is aware that the minor desires an abortion and that he or she does consent to the abortion;~~

~~(4) The date; and~~

~~(5) The notarized signature of the parent or legal guardian.~~

~~(c) A notarized signature is not required if the person who performs the abortion or his or her agent witnesses the signature of the parent or~~

~~legal guardian and signs the written consent as a witness.~~

~~(d) Prior to signing the written consent as a witness, the person who performs the abortion or his or her agent shall obtain from the parent or legal guardian positive proof of identification in the form of a valid photo identification card.~~

~~(e) A photocopy of the proof of identification and the written consent statement shall be maintained in the minor's or incompetent woman's medical records for a period of five (5) years from the date of the abortion.~~

~~20-16-804.—Judicial relief from requirement.~~

~~Notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 20-16-801 and 20-16-803, if a pregnant minor or incompetent woman elects not to obtain the consent of one (1) or both parents or guardian or custodian, then:~~

~~(1)(A) Any judge of a circuit court, upon petition or motion and after an appropriate hearing, shall authorize a physician to perform the abortion if the judge determines that the pregnant minor or incompetent woman is mature and capable of giving informed consent to the proposed abortion.~~

~~(B) If the judge determines that the pregnant minor or incompetent woman is not mature or if the pregnant woman does not claim to be mature, the judge shall determine whether the performance of an abortion upon her without consent of her parents, guardian, or custodian would be in her best interests and shall authorize a physician to perform the abortion without the consent if the judge concludes that the pregnant minor or incompetent woman's best interests would be served by such an action;~~

~~(2)(A) Such a pregnant minor or incompetent woman may participate in proceedings in the court on her own behalf. However, the court shall advise her that she has a right to court-appointed counsel and upon her request shall provide her with such counsel.~~

~~(B) The minor or incompetent person shall have the right to file her petition in the circuit court using a pseudonym or using solely her initials;~~

~~(3) Court proceedings under this section shall be confidential and shall ensure the anonymity of the minor or incompetent person. All court proceedings under this section shall be sealed, and all documents related to this petition shall be confidential and shall not be available to the public;~~

~~(4) These proceedings shall be given precedence over other~~

~~pending matters to the extent necessary to ensure that the court reaches a decision promptly and without delay so as to serve the best interests of the pregnant minor or incompetent woman;~~

~~(5) The judge shall make in writing specific factual findings and legal conclusions supporting the decision and shall order a record of the evidence to be maintained, including the judge's own findings and conclusions;~~

~~(6)(A) An expedited confidential appeal shall be available to any such pregnant minor or incompetent woman for whom the court denies an order authorizing an abortion without consent.~~

~~(B) An order authorizing an abortion without consent shall not be subject to appeal; and~~

~~(7) No filing fees shall be required of any such pregnant minor or incompetent woman at either the trial or the appellate level.~~

~~20-16-805.— Limitations on requirement.~~

~~Consent shall not be required under this subchapter if:~~

~~(1) The attending physician certifies in the pregnant minor or incompetent woman's medical record that there is a medical emergency and there is insufficient time to obtain the required consent; or~~

~~(2) A judicial bypass is obtained under § 20-16-804.~~

~~20-16-806.— Penalty.~~

~~(a) The performance of an abortion in violation of this subchapter shall be a Class A misdemeanor and shall be grounds for a civil action by a person whose consent is required.~~

~~(b) Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to allow the charging or conviction of a woman with any criminal offense in the death of her own unborn child in utero.~~

~~20-16-807.— Legislative intent.~~

~~This subchapter is not intended to create and shall not be construed to create an affirmative right to legal abortion.~~

~~20-16-808.— When consent of parent not required.~~

~~Consent under this subchapter shall not be required to be obtained from~~

~~a parent if:~~

~~(1) Both of the parents' whereabouts are unknown; or~~

~~(2)(A) If the minor has only one (1) living parent and the minor states by affidavit that the parent has committed incest with the minor, has raped the minor, or has otherwise sexually abused the minor.~~

~~(B) The attending physician shall report the abuse as provided under the Child Maltreatment Act, § 12-18-101 et seq.~~

~~20-16-809. When consent is not required.~~

~~A minor shall not be required to obtain consent under this subchapter if the guardianship or custody order has expired or is otherwise no longer in effect.~~

~~20-16-810. Additional information reported by abortion providers.~~

~~(a) In addition to other information reported by an abortion provider to the Department of Health, the following information shall be reported for each induced termination of pregnancy:~~

~~(1) Whether parental consent was required;~~

~~(2) Whether parental consent was obtained; and~~

~~(3) Whether a judicial bypass was obtained.~~

~~(b) The department shall revise its forms utilized by abortion providers to report an induced termination of pregnancy by including the reporting of information required by this section.~~

20-16-801. Title.

This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Parental Involvement Enhancement Act".

20-16-802. Legislative findings and purpose.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Immature minors often lack the ability to make fully informed choices that take into account both immediate and long-range consequences;

(2) The medical, emotional, and psychological consequences of abortion are sometimes serious and can be lasting, particularly when the minor is immature;

(3) The capacity to become pregnant and the capacity for mature judgment concerning the wisdom of an abortion are not necessarily related;

(4) Parents ordinarily possess information essential to a physician's exercise of his or her best medical judgment concerning the minor daughter;

(5) Parents who are aware that their minor daughter has had an abortion may better ensure that she receives adequate medical attention after her abortion; and

(6) Parental consultation is usually desirable and in the best interests of the minor.

(b) Based on the findings in subsection (a) of this section, the General Assembly's purposes in enacting this enhancement to the State of Arkansas's parental notice law are to further the important and compelling state interests of:

(1) Protecting minors against their own immaturity;

(2) Fostering family unity and preserving the family as a viable social unit;

(3) Protecting the constitutional rights of parents to rear children who are members of their household;

(4) Reducing teenage pregnancy and abortion; and

(5) In light of the foregoing statements of purpose, allowing for judicial bypasses of the parental notice requirement to be made only in exceptional or rare circumstances.

20-16-803. Definitions.

As used in this subchapter:

(1)(A) "Abortion" means the act of using or prescribing an instrument, medicine, drug, or any other substance, device, or means with the intent to terminate the clinically diagnosable pregnancy of a woman, with knowledge that the termination by those means will with reasonable likelihood cause the death of the unborn child.

(B) An act under subdivision (1)(A) of this section is not an abortion if the act is performed with the intent to:

(i) Save the life or preserve the health of the unborn child;

(ii) Remove a dead unborn child caused by

spontaneous abortion; or

(iii) Remove an ectopic pregnancy;

(2) "Coercion" means restraining or dominating the choice of a pregnant woman by force, threat of force, or deprivation of food and shelter;

(3) "Consent" means:

(A) In the case of a pregnant woman who is less than eighteen (18) years of age, a notarized written statement signed by the pregnant woman and her mother, father, or legal guardian declaring that the pregnant woman intends to seek an abortion and that her mother, father, or legal guardian consents to the abortion; or

(B) In the case of a pregnant woman who is an incompetent person, a notarized written statement signed by the pregnant woman's guardian declaring that the guardian consents to the performance of an abortion upon the pregnant woman;

(4) "Emancipated minor" means a person less than eighteen (18) years of age who is or has been married or who has been legally emancipated;

(5) "Incompetent" means a person who has been adjudged a disabled person and has had a guardian appointed for her;

(6) "Medical emergency" means a condition that, on the basis of the physician's good-faith clinical judgment, complicates the medical condition of a pregnant woman so as to necessitate the immediate abortion of her pregnancy to avert her death or for which a delay will create serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function;

(7) "Minor" means an individual under eighteen (18) years of age;

(8) "Parent" means:

(A) Either parent of the pregnant woman if both parents are living;

(B) One (1) parent of the pregnant woman if only one (1) is living or if the second parent cannot be located through reasonably diligent effort; or

(C) The court-appointed guardian or custodian if the pregnant woman has one;

(9) "Physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine in this state, including a medical doctor or doctors of osteopathy; and

(10) "Pregnant woman" means a pregnant minor or pregnant

incompetent woman.

20-16-804. Notarized consent.

Except as otherwise provided in §§ 20-16-807 and 20-16-809, a physician shall not perform an abortion upon an unempancipated minor or upon a woman for whom a guardian or custodian has been appointed because of a finding of incompetency unless the physician first obtains the written consent of either parent or the legal guardian or custodian.

20-16-805. Manner of consent.

(a) A physician shall not perform an abortion upon a pregnant woman unless:

(1) In the case of a woman who is less than eighteen (18) years of age, he or she obtains the notarized written consent of both the pregnant woman and one (1) of her parents or her legal guardian; or

(2) In the case of woman who is an incompetent person, the physician first obtains the notarized written consent of her legal guardian.

(b) The notarized written consent shall include without limitation the following information:

(1) The name and birthdate of the minor or incompetent woman;

(2) The name of the parent or legal guardian;

(3) A statement from the parent or legal guardian that he or she is aware that the minor or incompetent woman desires an abortion and that he or she does consent to the abortion; and

(4) The date.

20-16-806. Proof of identification and relationship to pregnant woman.

(a) The physician who performs the abortion shall obtain from the parent or legal guardian entitled to consent:

(1) Positive proof of identification in the form of a valid government-issued photo identification card;

(2) Written documentation that establishes that the parent or legal guardian is the lawful parent or legal guardian of the pregnant woman.

(b) A photocopy of the proof of identification of the parent or legal guardian and the written documentation that establishes the relationship of the parent or legal guardian to the pregnant woman shall be kept in the

medical file of the pregnant woman for five (5) years past the age of majority of the pregnant woman, but in no event less than seven (7) years.

(c) The physician who performs the abortion after receiving parental consent under this subchapter shall execute for inclusion in the medical record of the pregnant woman an affidavit stating the following: "I, (Insert the name of physician who performed the abortion), certify that according to my best information and belief, a reasonable person under similar circumstances would rely on the information presented by both the pregnant woman and her parent or legal guardian as sufficient evidence of identity and relationship."

20-16-807. Notice postemergency.

(a)(1) Consent is not required under this subchapter if the attending physician certifies in the medical record of the pregnant woman that a medical emergency exists and there is insufficient time to obtain the required consent.

(2) However, within twenty-four (24) hours after the completion of the abortion, the physician shall notify one (1) of the parents or the legal guardian of the minor or incompetent woman in the manner provided in this subchapter that a medical emergency abortion was performed on the pregnant woman and of the circumstances that warranted invocation of this section.

(b)(1) Unless the minor or incompetent woman gives notice of her intent to seek a judicial waiver under § 20-16-809, the physician shall verbally inform the parent or legal guardian of the minor or incompetent woman within twenty-four (24) hours after the performance of a medical emergency abortion that an abortion was performed on the minor or incompetent woman.

(2) The physician shall:

(A) Inform the parent or legal guardian of the basis for the certification of the physician required under subsection (a) of this section and provide details regarding any additional risks to the pregnant woman; and

(B) Send a written notice of the performed abortion to the last known address of the parent or legal guardian by certified mail with restricted delivery and return receipt requested.

(c) If the minor or incompetent woman gives notice to the physician of her intent to seek a judicial waiver under this subchapter, the physician shall:

(1) File a notice with a judge of a court that the minor has given notice; and

(2) Provide the information to the court that the physician would have been required to provide to the parent or legal guardian under subsection (b) of this section if the minor or incompetent woman had not given her intent to seek a judicial waiver.

(d)(1) The court shall expeditiously schedule a confidential conference with notice to the minor or incompetent woman and the physician.

(2) If the minor or incompetent woman is able to participate in the proceedings, the court shall advise the minor or incompetent woman that she has the right to a court-appointed counsel and, upon her request, shall provide the minor or incompetent with a court-appointed counsel.

(3) If the minor or incompetent woman is unable to participate in the proceedings, the court shall appoint counsel on behalf of the minor or incompetent woman.

(e)(1) After an appropriate hearing, the court, taking into account the medical condition of the minor or incompetent woman, shall set a deadline by which the minor or incompetent woman may file a petition or motion under this subchapter.

(2) The court may subsequently extend the deadline in light of the medical condition of the minor or incompetent woman or other equitable considerations.

(3) If the minor or incompetent woman does not file a petition or motion by the deadline, either in the court or in another court with a copy filed in the original court, the court shall direct that the court clerk provide the notice to the parent or legal guardian.

20-16-808. Venue.

The pregnant woman may petition a circuit court in the county in which she resides for a waiver of the consent requirement.

20-16-809. Judicial relief from requirement.

(a) The requirements and procedures of this subchapter are available

to a pregnant woman regardless of whether the woman is a resident of the state.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 20-16-803 – 20-16-806, if a pregnant minor or incompetent woman does not wish to obtain the consent of one (1) or both parents of guardian or custodian, then:

(1)(A) The pregnant woman may petition a circuit court for a waiver of the consent requirement and may participate in the proceedings on her own behalf.

(B) However, the court shall advise the pregnant woman that she has a right to a court-appointed counsel and, upon her request, shall provide her with such counsel.

(C) The court may appoint a guardian ad litem for the pregnant woman.

(D) A guardian ad litem appointed under this subchapter shall act to maintain the confidentiality of the proceedings; and

(2) When the petitioner is a minor, the petition shall include a statement that the minor is pregnant and unemancipated.

(B) The petition shall include a statement that consent has not been waived and that the pregnant woman wishes to abort the fetus without obtaining consent under this subchapter;

(3) The pregnant woman shall have the right to file her petition in the circuit court using a pseudonym or using solely her initials;

(4)(A) The court proceedings under this section shall be confidential and shall ensure the anonymity of the minor or incompetent woman.

(B) All court proceedings under this section shall be sealed and all documents related to the petition shall be confidential and shall not be available to the public.

(5) These proceedings shall be given precedence over other pending matters to the extent necessary to ensure that the court reaches a decision promptly and without delay as to serve the best interests of the pregnant minor or incompetent woman;

(6) The judge shall make in writing specific factual findings and legal conclusions supporting the decision and shall order a record of the evidence to be maintained, including the findings and conclusions of the judge;

(7)(A) An expedited confidential appeal shall be available to any pregnant minor or incompetent woman for whom the court denies an order authorizing an abortion without consent.

(B) An order authorizing an abortion without consent shall not be subject to appeal; and

(8) A filing fee shall not be required of any pregnant minor or incompetent woman at either the trial or the appellate level.

(b)(1)(A) If the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the pregnant woman is both sufficiently mature and well-informed to decide whether to have an abortion, the court shall:

(i) Issue an order authorizing the pregnant woman to consent to the performance or inducement of an abortion without the consent of a parent or legal guardian; and

(ii) Execute the required forms.

(B) If the court does not make the findings specified in this subsection or subsection (b)(2) of this section, the court shall dismiss the petition.

(2)(A) If the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the pregnant woman is the victim of physical or sexual abuse by one (1) or both of her parents or her legal guardian, or that obtaining the consent of a parent or legal guardian is not in the best interest of the pregnant woman, the court shall issue an order authorizing the pregnant woman to consent to the performance or inducement of an abortion without the consent of a parent or guardian.

(B) If the court does not make the findings specified in this subsection or subsection (b)(1) of this section, the court shall dismiss the petition.

(3) The attending physician shall report any abuse as provided in the Child Maltreatment Act, § 12-18-101 et seq.

(c)(1) If the pregnant woman claims to be mature and well-informed at a proceeding held under this subchapter, the pregnant woman shall prove by clear and convincing evidence that she is sufficiently mature and capable of giving informed consent without obtaining consent from or giving notice to her parent or legal guardian based on her experience level, perspective, and judgment.

(2) In assessing the pregnant woman's experience level, the

court may consider the following relevant factors:

- (A) The age of the pregnant woman;
- (B) The pregnant woman's experiences working outside the home;
- (C) The pregnant woman's experiences living away from home;
- (D) The pregnant woman's experiences traveling on her own;
- (E) The pregnant woman's experiences handling personal finances;
- (F) The pregnant woman's experiences making other significant decisions; and
- (G) Other relevant factors as appropriate.

(3) In assessing the pregnant woman's perspective, the court may consider the following relevant factors:

- (A) The steps that the pregnant woman took to explore her options;
- (B) To what extent she considered and weighed the potential consequences of each option; and
- (C) Other relevant factors as appropriate.

(4) In assessing the pregnant woman's judgment, the court may consider among other relevant factors, the pregnant woman's conduct since learning of her pregnancy and her intellectual ability to understand her options and to make an informed decision.

20-16-810. Disclosure and consent form.

(a) Physicians shall use a form created by the Department of Health to obtain the consent required prior to performing an abortion on a pregnant woman.

(b) A form is not valid and consent is not sufficient unless:

- (1) A parent or legal guardian initials each page of the form, indicating that he or she has read and understands the information included on that page;
- (2) A parent or legal guardian signs the last page of the form in front of a person who is a notary public;
- (3) The pregnant woman initials each list of risks and hazards detailed in subdivision (c)(4) of this section;

(4) The pregnant woman signs a consent statement described in subdivision (c)(6) of this section; and

(5) The physician signs a physician declaration described in subdivision (c)(7) of this section.

(c) The form shall include without limitation the following information:

(1) A description of the pregnant woman's rights, including the right to informed consent as granted by § 20-16-901 et seq.;

(2) A description of the parent or legal guardian's rights under state law;

(3) A detailed description of the surgical procedures or medical procedures, or both, that are planned to be performed on the pregnant woman;

(4) A detailed list of the risks and hazards related to the surgical or medical procedures planned for the pregnant woman, including without limitation the following risks and hazards that may occur:

(A) Infection;

(B) Blood clots;

(C) Hemorrhage;

(D) Allergic reactions;

(E) A hole in the uterus or other damage to the uterus;

(F) Sterility;

(G) Injury to the bowel or bladder;

(H) Possible hysterectomy as a result of complication or injury during the procedure;

(I) Failure to remove all products of conception;

(J) Possible continuation of pregnancy;

(K) Cramping of the uterus or pelvic pain;

(L) Cervical laceration;

(M) Incompetent cervix;

(N) Emergency treatment for any complications; or

(O) Death;

(5) A description of additional information that shall be provided by the physician to the pregnant woman under state law;

(6) A consent statement signed by the pregnant woman that includes without limitation the following information individually initialed by the pregnant woman that the pregnant woman:

(A) Understands that the doctor is going to perform an abortion on her that will end her pregnancy and will result in the death of her unborn child;

(B) Is not being forced to have an abortion and that she has the choice not to have the abortion and may withdraw consent prior to the abortion;

(C) Gives permission for the procedure;

(D) Understands that there are risks and hazards that could affect her if she has the planned surgical or medical procedures;

(E) Has been given the opportunity to ask questions about her condition, alternative forms of treatment, risk of nontreatment, the procedures to be used, and the risks and hazards involved;

(F) Has been given information required by statute; and

(G) Has sufficient information to give informed consent;

(7) A physician declaration, signed by the physician, stating that:

(A) The physician or his or her assistant has, as required, explained the procedure and the contents of this form to the pregnant woman and her parent or legal guardian and has answered all questions; and

(B) To the best of the physician's knowledge, the patient and her parent or legal guardian have been adequately informed and have consented to the procedure;

(8) A parental consent statement that states that the signing parent or legal guardian:

(A) Understands that the doctor signing the physician declaration form is going to perform an abortion on the pregnant woman, which will end her pregnancy and result in the death of her unborn child; and

(B) Has had the opportunity to read the physician declaration form or have it read to him or her and has initialed each page;

(C) Had the opportunity to ask questions of the physician or the physician's assistant about the information in the physician declaration form and the surgical and medical procedures to be performed on the pregnant woman;

(D) Believes that he or she has sufficient information to give informed consent; and

(E) Affirms by the parent's or legal guardian's signature that he or she is the pregnant woman's father, mother, or legal guardian;

(9) A page for the parent's or legal guardian's signature that shall be notarized by a notary public; and

(10) Any additional information that may be provided to a woman under the laws of this state in order for a physician to obtain her informed consent prior to performing an abortion.

20-16-811. Penalty.

(a) The performance of an abortion in violation of this subchapter shall be a Class A misdemeanor and shall be grounds for a civil action by a person whose consent is required.

(b) This subchapter does not allow the charging or conviction of a woman with any criminal offense in the death of her own unborn child in utero.

20-16-812. Legislative intent.

This subchapter is not intended to create and shall not be construed to create an affirmative right to legal abortion.

20-16-813. When consent is not required.

A minor shall not be required to obtain consent under this subchapter if the guardianship or custody order has expired or is otherwise no longer in effect.

20-16-814. Additional information reported by abortion providers.

(a) In addition to other information reported by an abortion provider to the Department of Health, the following information shall be reported for each induced termination of pregnancy:

- (1) Whether parental consent was required;
- (2) Whether parental consent was obtained; and
- (3) Whether a judicial waiver was obtained.

(b) The department shall revise its forms utilized by abortion providers to report an induced termination of pregnancy by including the reporting of information required by this section.

20-16-815. Construction.

(a) This subchapter does not create or recognize a right to abortion.

(b) It is not the intention of this subchapter to make lawful an abortion that is currently unlawful.

20-16-816. Right of intervention.

The General Assembly, by joint resolution, may appoint one (1) or more of its members who sponsored or cosponsored this subchapter, as a matter of right and in his or her official capacity, to intervene to defend this law in any case in which its constitutionality is challenged.

20-16-817. Effective date.

This subchapter takes effect on January 1, 2016.

SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. SAVINGS CLAUSE. If any section or part of a section of this act is determined by a court to be unconstitutional, the parental notification laws under § 20-16-801 et seq., shall be revived, and to prevent a hiatus in the law, the relevant section or part of a section of the parental notification laws shall remain in full force and effect from and after the effective date of this act notwithstanding its repeal by this act.

/s/Harris

APPROVED: 04/02/2015