

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

SENATE BILL 347

By: Senator A. Clark

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CREATE THE VULNERABLE CHILD PROTECTION ACT;
TO PROHIBIT GENDER REASSIGNMENT SERVICES FOR MINORS;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CREATE THE VULNERABLE CHILD PROTECTION
ACT; AND TO PROHIBIT GENDER REASSIGNMENT
SERVICES FOR MINORS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 27, is amended to add an additional subchapter to read as follows:

Subchapter 28 – Vulnerable Child Protection Act

20-27-2801. Title.

This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Vulnerable Child Protection Act".

20-27-2802. Definitions.

As used in this subchapter:

(1) "Gender reassignment services" means any medical procedure performed on or treatment administered to a minor for the purposes of changing the minor's physical sexual characteristics from those of either the male or female gender to those of the opposite gender, including without limitation surgery or hormone treatment;

(2) "Healthcare professional" means a person who is licensed,



certified, or otherwise authorized by the laws of this state to administer health care in the ordinary course of the practice of his or her profession; and

(3) "Minor" means a person under eighteen (18) years of age.

20-27-2803. Prohibition on gender reassignment services for minor.

(a) A healthcare professional shall not provide gender reassignment services to a minor.

(b) A healthcare professional who violates subsection (a) of this section is subject to disciplinary action by the state entity that licenses, certifies, or authorizes the healthcare professional to practice, including without limitation suspension or revocation of his or her license, certificate, or authorization.

(c) A healthcare professional who knowingly provides gender reassignment services to a minor is upon conviction guilty of a Class D felony.

20-27-2804. Prohibition on public funds for gender reassignment services for minor.

Public funds shall not be used for the purposes of:

(1) Providing gender reassignment services to a minor;

(2) Referring a minor to a healthcare professional for gender reassignment services;

(3) Referring a minor to any other person who is otherwise engaged in trade or commerce for gender reassignment services;

(4) Covering gender reassignment services for a minor as a part of a health benefit; or

(5) Granting or contracting with an entity to:

(A) Provide gender reassignment services to a minor; or

(B) Refer any minor to a healthcare professional or a person who is otherwise engaged in trade or commerce for gender reassignment services.