

As Introduced

133rd General Assembly

Regular Session

2019-2020

H. B. No. 554

Representatives Boggs, Manchester

**Cosponsors: Representatives Galonski, Weinstein, Miranda, Riedel, Strahorn,
Crawley, Crossman, Sobecki, Carfagna, Hoops, Carruthers, Russo, Patton,
Howse, Kelly**

A BILL

To enact section 3701.62 of the Revised Code to 1
authorize a pregnant minor to consent to receive 2
health care to maintain or improve her life or 3
the life of the unborn child she is carrying. 4

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

Section 1. That section 3701.62 of the Revised Code be 5
enacted to read as follows: 6

Sec. 3701.62. (A) As used in this section, "health care" 7
means only treatment or services intended to maintain the life 8
or improve the health of either a pregnant minor or the unborn 9
child she is carrying. 10

(B) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the 11
contrary, a minor may consent to receive prenatal health care, 12
health care during delivery, and post-delivery health care 13
necessary for physical recovery from the birth prior to being 14
discharged from the hospital. Such care includes family planning 15
services. Such consent is not subject to disaffirmance because 16

the minor has not reached the age of majority. The consent of 17
any other person is not needed to authorize the provision of 18
health care under this section, including consent from any of 19
the following: the minor's spouse, parent, or guardian; a person 20
acting in loco parentis to the minor; or the putative father of 21
the unborn child. 22

(C) At the minor's initial prenatal visit to the health 23
care facility or health care professional, the facility or 24
professional shall request permission from the minor to contact 25
the minor's spouse or any parent, guardian, or person acting in 26
loco parentis to the minor for the purpose of seeking additional 27
medical information that may be necessary or helpful to the 28
provision of proper health care to the minor or her unborn 29
child. 30

(D) For reasons related to medical treatment, the minor's 31
treating health care professional or that professional's 32
delegate may inform the minor's spouse, parent, or guardian, or 33
a person acting in loco parentis to the minor, regarding the 34
health care provided or needed. However, the health care 35
professional or delegate may not provide information related to 36
the minor's medical history. 37

(E) A minor's parent or guardian, or a person acting in 38
loco parentis to the minor, is not liable for the cost of 39
treatment or services provided to the minor or her unborn child 40
pursuant to this section. 41

(F) Nothing in this section abrogates or limits any 42
person's responsibility under section 2151.421 of the Revised 43
Code to report child abuse that is known or reasonably suspected 44
or believed to have occurred, child neglect that is known or 45
reasonably suspected or believed to have occurred, and children 46

who are known to face or are reasonably suspected or believed to 47
be facing a threat of suffering abuse or neglect. 48