

As Introduced

**136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026**

S. B. No. 440

Senators Ingram, Hicks-Hudson

To enact section 3792.02 of the Revised Code to 1
authorize a pregnant minor to consent to receive 2
health care to maintain the life or improve the 3
health of herself or the unborn child she is 4
carrying. 5

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

Section 1. That section 3792.02 of the Revised Code be 6
enacted to read as follows: 7

Sec. 3792.02. (A) As used in this section, "health care" 8
means only treatment or services intended to maintain the life 9
or improve the health of either a pregnant minor or the unborn 10
child she is carrying. 11

(B) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the 12
contrary, a minor may consent to receive prenatal health care, 13
health care during delivery, and post-delivery health care 14
necessary for physical recovery from the birth prior to being 15
discharged from the hospital. Such care includes family planning 16
services. Such consent is not subject to disaffirmance because 17
the minor has not reached the age of majority. The consent of 18
any other person is not needed to authorize the provision of 19
health care under this section, including consent from any of 20

the following: the minor's spouse, parent, or guardian; a person 21
acting in loco parentis to the minor; or the putative father of 22
the unborn child. 23

(C) At the minor's initial prenatal visit to the health 24
care facility or health care professional, the facility or 25
professional shall request permission from the minor to contact 26
the minor's spouse or any parent, guardian, or person acting in 27
loco parentis to the minor for the purpose of seeking additional 28
medical information that may be necessary or helpful to the 29
provision of proper health care to the minor or her unborn 30
child. 31

(D) For reasons related to medical treatment, the minor's 32
treating health care professional or that professional's 33
delegate may inform the minor's spouse, parent, or guardian, or 34
a person acting in loco parentis to the minor, regarding the 35
health care provided or needed. However, the health care 36
professional or delegate may not provide information related to 37
the minor's medical history. 38

(E) A minor's parent or guardian, or a person acting in 39
loco parentis to the minor, is not liable for the cost of 40
treatment or services provided to the minor or her unborn child 41
pursuant to this section. 42

(F) Nothing in this section abrogates or limits any 43
person's responsibility under section 2151.421 of the Revised 44
Code to report child abuse that is known or reasonably suspected 45
or believed to have occurred, child neglect that is known or 46
reasonably suspected or believed to have occurred, and children 47
who are known to face or are reasonably suspected or believed to 48
be facing a threat of suffering abuse or neglect. 49