

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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Representative Valdés offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 390.01117, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

390.01117 Parental consent for abortion.-

(1) SHORT TITLE.-This section may be cited as the "Parental Consent for Abortion Act."

(2) DEFINITIONS.-As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Consent" means a notarized written statement signed by a minor and either her mother, her father, or her legal guardian declaring that the minor is pregnant, that she intends

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

14 to seek an abortion, and that her mother, father, or legal
15 guardian, as applicable, consents to the abortion.

16 (b) "Minor" means an unemancipated person younger than 18
17 years of age.

18 (c) "Statement of veto of abortion" means a written
19 statement signed by a minor and either her mother, her father,
20 or her legal guardian declaring that the minor is pregnant, that
21 she desires an abortion, and that her mother, father, or legal
22 guardian, as applicable, objects to the abortion, including a
23 detailed explanation by the minor's mother, father, or legal
24 guardian of the reasons for his or her veto of the abortion.

25 (3) CONSENT OF ONE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN REQUIRED.—A
26 physician may not perform an abortion on a minor unless the
27 physician has been presented with consent as defined in this
28 section.

29 (4) EXCEPTIONS.—Consent is not required under subsection
30 (3) if:

31 (a) The attending physician certifies in the minor's
32 medical record that a medical emergency, as defined in s.
33 390.01114(2)(d), exists and there is insufficient time to obtain
34 consent;

35 (b) The attending physician certifies in the minor's
36 medical record that the minor's parent or legal guardian has
37 failed to fully and properly complete a statement of veto of

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

38 abortion within the required time limit established in
39 subsection (5); or
40 (c) Consent is waived under subsection (7).
41 (5) PROCEDURE FOR STATEMENT OF VETO OF ABORTION.—
42 (a) A minor may request written documentation of a
43 parent's or legal guardian's decision to veto an abortion in the
44 form of a statement of veto of abortion.
45 (b) A parent or legal guardian who vetoes a minor's
46 abortion must complete and sign the statement of veto of
47 abortion within 3 days after the minor requests the statement. A
48 parent's or legal guardian's failure to fully and properly
49 complete a statement of veto of abortion within the required 3-
50 day timeframe constitutes a waiver of the parent's or legal
51 guardian's ability to veto the minor's abortion.
52 (c) Forms for a statement of veto of abortion shall be
53 made available to a minor both online and in print by all of the
54 following entities:
55 1. Any abortion provider.
56 2. Any crisis pregnancy center.
57 3. Any school counselor.
58 4. Any court participating in the judicial waiver process.
59 5. The Florida Department of Health.
60 (6) DUTIES AND LIABILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH STATEMENTS OF
61 VETO OF ABORTION.—

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

62 (a) A parent or legal guardian who has completed a
63 statement of veto of abortion is financially responsible for all
64 medical costs associated with the continuation of a pregnancy as
65 a result of the parent's or legal guardian's objection to the
66 abortion, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

67 1. Medical appointments, procedures, and equipment.

68 2. Prescription medication.

69 3. Nonprescription medication.

70 4. Vitamins or nutritional supplements.

71 5. Psychological care.

72 6. Psychiatric care.

73 (b) A parent or legal guardian who has completed a
74 statement of veto of abortion is financially responsible for all
75 education costs ordinarily or customarily related to a child
76 born as a result of the parent's or legal guardian's objection
77 to the abortion, including, but not limited to, all of the
78 following:

79 1. Costs associated with child care, such as day care or
80 babysitting.

81 2. Pre-kindergarten.

82 3. Private education tuition and fees.

83 4. Parochial education tuition and fees.

84 5. Educational supplies, such as notebooks, pens, pencils,
85 and backpacks.

86 6. Tutoring.

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

87 7. College or university tuition at a private or public
88 institution.

89 8. Special education programs.

90 (c) A parent or legal guardian who has completed a
91 statement of veto of abortion is financially responsible for all
92 costs ordinarily and customarily related to providing food and
93 housing for a child born as a result of the parent's or legal
94 guardian's veto of abortion, including, but not limited to, all
95 of the following:

96 1. Rent or mortgage for a living space.

97 2. Disposable or reusable diapers.

98 3. Clothing.

99 4. Food.

100 5. Hygiene items, such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, or
101 sanitary napkins.

102 (7) PROCEDURE FOR JUDICIAL WAIVER OF CONSENT.-

103 (a) A minor may petition any circuit court in the district
104 in which the minor resides for a waiver of the right of the
105 mother, father, or legal guardian to veto an abortion and may
106 participate in proceedings on her own behalf. The petition must
107 include a statement that the minor is pregnant and is
108 unemancipated, that a parent or a legal guardian of the minor
109 has vetoed her right to an abortion, and that the minor wishes
110 to obtain an abortion regardless of the express veto of her
111 parent or legal guardian. The circuit court shall advise the

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

112 minor that she has a right to court-appointed counsel and shall
113 provide her with counsel upon her request. The court also may
114 appoint a guardian ad litem for the minor. A guardian ad litem
115 appointed under this subsection must maintain the
116 confidentiality of the minor's identity.

117 (b) Court proceedings under this section shall be
118 confidential and must ensure the anonymity of the minor. All
119 court proceedings under this section shall be sealed. The minor
120 may file her petition in the court using a pseudonym or using
121 solely her initials. All documents related to this petition
122 shall be confidential and may not be made available to the
123 public. These proceedings shall be given precedence over other
124 pending matters to the extent necessary to ensure that the court
125 reaches a decision promptly. The court shall rule, and issue
126 written findings of fact and conclusions of law, within 3
127 business days after the petition is filed, except that the 3-
128 business-day limitation may be extended at the request of the
129 minor.

130 1. If the court fails to rule within the 3-business-day
131 period and an extension has not been requested, the minor may
132 immediately petition for a hearing upon the expiration of the 3-
133 business-day period to the chief judge of the circuit, who must
134 ensure that a hearing is held within 48 hours after receipt of
135 the minor's petition and that an order is entered within 24
136 hours after the hearing.

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

137 2. If the circuit court does not grant a judicial waiver
138 of consent, the minor has the right to an appeal. An appellate
139 court must rule within 7 days after receipt of the appeal, but a
140 ruling may be remanded with further instruction, in which case a
141 ruling must be made within 3 business days after the remand. The
142 reason for overturning a ruling on appeal must be based on abuse
143 of discretion by the court and may not be based on the weight of
144 the evidence presented to the circuit court, since the
145 proceeding is a nonadversarial proceeding.

146 (c) If the court finds, by clear and convincing evidence,
147 that the minor is sufficiently mature to decide whether to
148 terminate her pregnancy, the court shall issue an order
149 authorizing the minor to obtain an abortion without the consent
150 of a parent or legal guardian. If the court does not make the
151 finding specified in this paragraph or paragraph (d), it must
152 dismiss the petition. The court shall consider whether there may
153 be any undue influence by another on the minor's decision to
154 have an abortion and all of the following factors concerning the
155 minor:

- 156 1. Age.
- 157 2. Overall intelligence.
- 158 3. Emotional development and stability.
- 159 4. Credibility and demeanor as a witness.
- 160 5. Ability to accept responsibility.

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

161 6. Ability to assess both the immediate and long-range
162 consequences of her choices.

163 7. Ability to understand and explain the medical risks of
164 terminating her pregnancy and to apply that understanding to her
165 decision.

166 (d) If the court finds, by a preponderance of the
167 evidence, that the petitioner is the victim of child abuse or
168 sexual abuse, as those terms are defined in s. 390.01114(2),
169 inflicted by one or both of her parents or her legal guardian,
170 or finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that requiring the
171 consent of a parent or legal guardian is not in the best
172 interest of the petitioner, the court shall issue an order
173 authorizing the minor to obtain an abortion without the consent
174 of a parent or legal guardian. The best-interest standard does
175 not include financial best interest or financial considerations
176 or the potential financial impact on the minor or her family if
177 she does not terminate the pregnancy. If the court finds
178 evidence of child abuse or sexual abuse of the petitioner by any
179 person, the court shall report the evidence of child abuse or
180 sexual abuse of the petitioner, as provided in s. 39.201. If the
181 court does not make the finding specified in this paragraph or
182 paragraph (c), it must dismiss the petition.

183 (e) If the court finds, by a preponderance of the
184 evidence, that a statement of veto of abortion is based
185 predominantly on the philosophical views of the parent or legal

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

186 guardian, and not on the best interest of the minor, the court
187 shall grant a judicial waiver of consent.

188 (f) A court that conducts proceedings under this section
189 shall:

190 1. Provide for a written transcript of all testimony and
191 proceedings;

192 2. Issue a final written order containing factual findings
193 and legal conclusions supporting its decision, including factual
194 findings and legal conclusions relating to the maturity of the
195 minor as provided under paragraph (c); and

196 3. Order that a confidential record be maintained.

197 (g) All hearings under this section, including appeals,
198 shall remain confidential and closed to the public, as provided
199 by court rule.

200 (h) An expedited appeal shall be made available, as the
201 Supreme Court provides by rule, to any minor to whom the circuit
202 court denies a waiver of consent. An order authorizing an
203 abortion without parental consent is not subject to appeal.

204 (i) Filing fees or court costs may not be required of any
205 minor who petitions a court for a waiver of consent under this
206 subsection at either the trial or the appellate level.

207 (j) A county is not required to pay the salaries, costs,
208 or expenses of any counsel appointed by the court under this
209 subsection.

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

210 (8) RULEMAKING.—The Supreme Court is requested to adopt
211 rules and forms for statements of veto of abortion and for
212 petitions for judicial waiver to ensure that proceedings under
213 subsections (6) and (8) are handled expeditiously and in a
214 manner consistent with this section. The Supreme Court is also
215 requested to adopt rules to ensure that the hearings protect the
216 confidentiality of the minor's identity and the confidentiality
217 of the proceedings.

218 (9) CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND CIVIL REMEDIES.—

219 (a) Any person who willfully and intentionally performs an
220 abortion with knowledge that, or with reckless disregard as to
221 whether, the minor upon whom the abortion is to be performed is
222 unemancipated without obtaining the required consent commits a
223 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
224 775.082 or s. 775.083. It is a defense to prosecution under this
225 section that the minor falsely represented her age or identity
226 to the physician to be at least 18 years of age by displaying an
227 apparently valid governmental record of identification such that
228 a careful and prudent person under similar circumstances would
229 have relied on the representation. The defense does not apply if
230 the physician is shown to have had independent knowledge of the
231 minor's actual age or identity or failed to use due diligence in
232 determining her age or identity.

233 (b) Any person not authorized to provide consent under
234 this section who provides consent commits a misdemeanor of the

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

235 first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
236 775.083.

237 (c) Failure to obtain consent from a person from whom
238 consent is required under this section is prima facie evidence
239 of failure to obtain consent and of interference with family
240 relations in appropriate civil actions. Such prima facie
241 evidence does not apply to any issue other than failure to
242 obtain consent from the parent or legal guardian and
243 interference with family relations in appropriate civil actions.
244 The civil action may be based on a claim that the act was a
245 result of negligence, gross negligence, wantonness, willfulness,
246 intention, or other legal standard of care. Exemplary damages
247 may be awarded in appropriate civil actions relevant to
248 violations of this section.

249 (d) Failure to comply with the requirements of this
250 section constitutes grounds for disciplinary action under each
251 respective practice act and under s. 456.072.

252 (e) An individual whose pregnancy has continued as a
253 result of her parent's or legal guardian's objection to an
254 abortion may petition a court to recover any expenses provided
255 in subsection (7) which have not been paid directly by the
256 parent or legal guardian who completed the statement of veto of
257 abortion.

258 (f) Any legal expenses and attorney fees incurred while
259 recovering expenses provided in subsection (7) by an individual

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

260 whose pregnancy has continued as a result of her parent's or
261 legal guardian's objection to an abortion shall be paid by the
262 parent or legal guardian who completed the statement of veto of
263 abortion.

264 (g) An individual whose pregnancy has continued as a
265 result of her parent's or legal guardian's objection to an
266 abortion is entitled to financial compensation from the parent
267 or legal guardian who completed a statement of veto of abortion
268 for any physical, emotional, psychological, or financial damage
269 incurred as a result of the continuation of pregnancy.

270 (h) Any legal expenses and attorney fees incurred while
271 pursuing compensation under paragraph (g) shall be paid by the
272 parent or legal guardian who completed the statement of veto of
273 abortion.

274 (10) CONSTRUCTION.—

275 (a) This section may not be construed to create or
276 recognize a right to abortion.

277 (b) This section may not be construed to limit the common
278 law rights of parents or legal guardians.

279 (c) By enacting this section, the Legislature does not
280 intend to make lawful an abortion that is currently unlawful.

281 (d) This section may not be construed to grant a parent or
282 legal guardian who completes a statement of veto of abortion any
283 right to make or influence decisions regarding a child born as a
284 result of the continuation of pregnancy.

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

285 (11) SEVERABILITY.—Any provision of this section held to
 286 be invalid or unenforceable by its terms, or as applied to any
 287 person or circumstance, shall be construed so as to give it the
 288 maximum effect permitted by law, unless such holding is one of
 289 utter invalidity or unenforceability, in which event such
 290 provision shall be deemed severable and may not affect the
 291 remainder hereof or the application of such provision to other
 292 persons not similarly situated or to other, dissimilar
 293 circumstances.

294 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

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297 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

298 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

299 A bill to be entitled

300 An act relating to parental consent for abortion;
 301 creating s. 390.01117, F.S.; providing a short title;
 302 defining terms; prohibiting a physician from
 303 performing an abortion on a minor unless the physician
 304 has been presented with consent from the minor's
 305 parent or legal guardian, as appropriate; providing
 306 exceptions; authorizing a minor to request a parent or
 307 legal guardian document his or her veto of an abortion
 308 in a specified form; requiring the parent or legal
 309 guardian to complete and sign the form within a

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

310 specified timeframe; requiring certain entities to
311 make the form available online and in printed format;
312 providing duties and liabilities for a parent or legal
313 guardian who completes the form; authorizing a minor
314 to petition any circuit court in the district in which
315 the minor resides for a waiver of consent required to
316 obtain an abortion; requiring a specified statement to
317 be included in the petition; providing for court-
318 appointed counsel and confidentiality; requiring the
319 court to give precedence to waiver of consent
320 proceedings and requiring a court to rule within a
321 specified timeframe; providing for an extension of
322 time at the request of the minor; authorizing a minor
323 to petition for a hearing upon the expiration of the
324 time allowed and requiring the chief judge of the
325 circuit to ensure that a hearing is held and that an
326 order is entered within specified timeframes;
327 providing for appeals within a specified timeframe;
328 requiring the court to dismiss the petition if it does
329 not make specified findings; requiring the court to
330 consider undue influence on the minor's decision and
331 specified factors; requiring the court to report any
332 findings of evidence of child abuse or sexual abuse of
333 the petitioner; requiring the court to grant a
334 judicial waiver of consent under certain

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM

Amendment No.

335 | circumstances; requiring a court to provide for a
336 | written transcript of waiver of consent proceedings
337 | and to include certain findings and conclusions in its
338 | order; prohibiting filing fees or costs for a minor
339 | who petitions the court for a waiver of consent;
340 | specifying that a county is not required to pay the
341 | salaries, costs, or expenses of certain court-
342 | appointed counsel; requesting the Supreme Court to
343 | adopt certain rules and forms relating to waiver of
344 | consent proceedings; providing criminal penalties,
345 | disciplinary action, and civil remedies; providing
346 | construction and severability; providing an effective
347 | date.

879317

Approved For Filing: 2/14/2020 3:08:27 PM