

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to voluntary admissions of minors;
 3 amending s. 394.4625, F.S.; requiring the express and
 4 informed consent of a minor's guardian for voluntary
 5 admission of the minor to a receiving facility;
 6 removing a requirement that a hearing be held to
 7 verify the voluntariness of a minor's consent before
 8 his or her admission to a facility; providing an
 9 effective date.

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 11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 13 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
 14 394.4625, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

15 394.4625 Voluntary admissions.—

16 (1) AUTHORITY TO RECEIVE PATIENTS.—

17 (a) A facility may receive for observation, diagnosis, or
 18 treatment any person 18 years of age or older making application
 19 to the facility by express and informed consent for admission or
 20 any person ~~age 17~~ years of age or younger ~~under~~ for whom such
 21 application is made by his or her guardian. If found to show
 22 evidence of mental illness; ~~;~~ to be competent to provide express
 23 and informed consent or, for a minor, the express and informed
 24 consent of the minor's guardian; ~~;~~ and to be suitable for
 25 treatment, such person ~~18 years of age or older~~ may be admitted

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26 | to the facility. ~~A person age 17 or under may be admitted only~~
27 | ~~after a hearing to verify the voluntariness of the consent.~~

28 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.