Discussing Gender Identity



What you need to know about new policies and limits to confidentiality for minors

HOUSE BILL 68

Went into effect 08/06/2024

Applies to mental health services provided by a licensed professional.

Requires parental consent (at least 1) for the "diagnosis and treatment of a gender related condition". This explicitly includes **gender dysphoria**.

But because the bill is otherwise very vague, the interpretation of a "gender related condition" is to be determined by each individual provider. Depending on how they interpret the bill and how they want to approach the law, some providers may seek parental consent to talk about gender identity at all.

HOUSE BILL 8

Went into effect 04/08/2025; Schools had to create a policy by 7/1/2025

Applies to the school setting and interactions with any school personnel.

Each school district is responsible for creating their own policy, but the law states that school officials would be required to notify students' parents of "any request...to identify with a gender that does not align with [their] biological sex".

• Ask your school about their specific policy now that the bill has gone into effect.

QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK

Consider asking these before engaging in mental health services or making disclosures to school personnel.

- "What kinds of things will you be required to tell my parents about?"
- "Can I ask you hypothetical questions about gender issues?"
- "Can I ask you about issues my friend is having with gender identity?"

RESOURCES

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE: 800-273-8255

TransOhio's "Trans Care Connect Warm Line" - free and confidential peer support services

• 866-708-6446

Trans Lifeline- direct emotional and financial support to trans people in crisis

• 877-565-8860; Press "2" for Spanish

Trevor Project Lifeline- Suicide prevention and crisis intervention for LGBTQ young people

• 866-488-7386 or text "START" to 678-678