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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1249 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY CAPPELLETTI, STREET, HAYWOOD, FONTANA, BREWSTER,  
SCHWANK, KEARNEY, SAVAL, COLLETT AND KANE, JUNE 20, 2024

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REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, JUNE 20, 2024

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AN ACT

1 Prohibiting governmental action against parents, legal  
2 custodians and legal guardians of minors in the provision of  
3 certain information and services to minors; and providing for  
4 certain protection from child abuse claims.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Protecting  
9 Parents of Transgender Children Act.

10 Section 2. Definitions.

11 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
12 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
13 context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 "Child abuse." As defined in 23 Pa.C.S. § 6303(b.1)  
15 (relating to definitions).

16 "Evidence-based." The use of current best evidence in making  
17 decisions about the care of an individual patient and  
18 integrating individual clinical expertise with the best  
19 available external clinical evidence from systematic research.

1 "Medically accurate." One of the following:

2 (1) verified or supported by the weight of peer-reviewed  
3 medical research conducted in compliance with accepted  
4 scientific methods;

5 (2) recognized as correct and objective by leading  
6 medical organizations with relevant expertise; or

7 (3) recommended by or affirmed in the medical practice  
8 guidelines of a nationally recognized accrediting  
9 organization.

10 "Medically appropriate." Consistent with all of the  
11 following:

12 (1) applicable legal, health and professional standards;

13 (2) a patient's clinical and other circumstances; and

14 (3) a patient's reasonably known wishes and beliefs.

15 Section 3. Governmental prohibition.

16 Neither the Commonwealth nor a political subdivision may  
17 prohibit a parent, legal custodian or legal guardian of a minor  
18 from obtaining, aiding the minor in obtaining or allowing the  
19 minor to obtain:

20 (1) information that is medically accurate and medically  
21 appropriate for the minor; or

22 (2) a medical service for the minor in a manner that is  
23 evidence-based and medically appropriate.

24 Section 4. Protection from child abuse claims.

25 It shall not constitute child abuse for a parent, legal  
26 custodian or legal guardian of a minor to obtain, aid the minor  
27 in obtaining or allow the minor to obtain:

28 (1) information that is medically accurate and medically  
29 appropriate for the minor; or

30 (2) a medical service for the minor in a manner that is

1 evidence-based and medically appropriate.

2 Section 5. Effective date.

3 This act shall take effect immediately.