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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

H.B. 172
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Newman

Emma Carroll, Research Analyst

SUMMARY

- Prohibits minors 14 or older from receiving mental health services without parental consent.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Mental health services for minors

Current law permits mental health professionals to provide outpatient mental health services to minors who are 14 or older on a temporary basis without consent from a parent or guardian. Mental health services may be provided for only up to six sessions or 30 days, whichever occurs sooner, after which parental consent is required to continue treatment. Without parental consent, the mental health professional must terminate the services, or, with the minor's consent, notify the parent or guardian to obtain consent for further services.

Medication may not be provided, and the minor's parent or guardian is not liable for the costs of services received, without parental consent. The mental health professional may inform the minor's parent or guardian of the services if the professional believes there is compelling need to do so based on a substantial probability of harm to the minor or others, as long as the minor is informed the professional intends to do so.

H.B. 172 repeals this law, thereby requiring a mental health professional to receive consent from a minor's parent or guardian before providing any mental health services.¹

¹ R.C. 5122.04, repealed; conforming changes in R.C. 2151.461, 3129.03, 3313.473, 3798.07, and 3798.12.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	03-19-25
