



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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Sub. S.B. 42

131st General Assembly

(As Reported by S. Health & Human Services)

Sens. Beagle, Cafaro, Eklund, Hite, Jones, Tavares, Brown

BILL SUMMARY

- Limits a minor's receipt of outpatient mental health services without parental consent to not more than six sessions.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Minors' outpatient mental health services without parental consent

Existing law authorizes a mental health professional to provide outpatient mental health services to a minor 14 years of age or older without parental consent or knowledge, if the minor requests the services. This does not include the use of medication. The bill limits to six the number of sessions that may be provided under those circumstances. Current law specifies that the services are limited to not more than six sessions *or* 30 days of services, whichever occurs sooner.¹

The bill does not modify other conditions concerning a minor's receipt of outpatient mental health services. Accordingly, a minor's parent or guardian continues to (1) be prohibited from being informed of the services (without the minor's consent) unless the treating mental health professional determines that there is a compelling need for disclosure and (2) not be liable for the costs of services. In addition, a mental

* The corrected version removes a dot point that was inadvertently included in the original version of this analysis.

¹ R.C. 5122.04(A) to (D).

health professional remains responsible for reporting suspected abuse or neglect of a child in accordance with existing law.²

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	02-10-15
Reported, S. Health & Human Services	11-30-16

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² R.C. 2151.421, not in the bill.

