SENATE BILL NO. 2394

Sixty-first Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

Introduced by

Senators Krebsbach, Erbele, Warner
Representatives Dahl, Metcalf

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 14-10 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to consent for prenatal care and other pregnancy care services provided to minors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 14-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Minor's consent for prenatal care and other pregnancy care services.

1. A minor may provide consent and contract for and receive pregnancy testing, prenatal care, and pain management related to pregnancy, and the consent of no other person is required. This section does not authorize a minor to consent to abortion or otherwise supersede the requirements of chapter 14-02.1.

2. If a minor requests confidential services pursuant to subsection 1, the physician or other health care professional shall encourage the minor to involve her parents or guardian. Notwithstanding subsection 1, a physician or other health care professional or a health care facility may not be compelled against their best judgment to treat a minor based on the minor's own consent.

3. A physician or other health care professional who, pursuant to subsection 1, provides pregnancy care services to a minor may inform the parent or guardian of the minor of any pregnancy care services given or needed if the physician or other health care professional discusses with the minor the reasons for informing the parent or guardian prior to the disclosure and, in the judgment of the physician or other health care professional:
   a. Failure to inform the parent or guardian would seriously jeopardize the health of the minor or her unborn child;
b. Surgery or hospitalization is needed; or

c. Informing the parent or guardian would benefit the health of the minor or her unborn child.