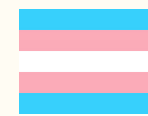
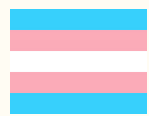




ATTENTION:
**ACCESS TO GENDER-
AFFIRMING HEALTHCARE
FOR TRANSGENDER
MINORS IN FLORIDA IS
UNDER ATTACK**



NOTE: This is a REVISED VERSION OF THIS GUIDE!

Critical Update: Due to an error in the email address listed on the Notice, the Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine's public comment period is **remaining open until December 28th.**

- (1)** If you **already submitted your comment** to the email address listed on the original Notice (Danielle.Terrell@flhealth.com) **please resend your comment** via email to the correct email address (Danielle.Terrell@flhealth.gov).
- (2)** If you have **not yet submitted a comment** to the Board of Osteopathic Medicine, **please do so before Dec. 28th!**



WHAT?

- **THE FLORIDA BOARD OF MEDICINE AND BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE PUBLISHED **PROPOSED RULES** TO ESTABLISH A NEW "STANDARD OF CARE" FOR THE TREATMENT OF GENDER DYSPHORIA IN MINORS.**
- **THESE PROPOSED RULES WOULD **RESTRICT DOCTORS' ABILITY TO PROVIDE MEDICALLY NECESSARY GENDER-AFFIRMING CARE TO TRANSGENDER MINORS** IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA.**

- **CLICK THE LINKS TO READ THE PROPOSED RULES THEMSELVES**



[BOARD OF MEDICINE](#)



[BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE](#)



WHEN?

- THE PROPOSED RULES WERE PUBLISHED ON NOVEMBER 14, 2022 IN THE FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER AND THE 21-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD **BEGAN ON NOVEMBER 14TH AND ENDED ON DECEMBER 5, 2022.**



NOTICE!! UPDATE!!



- **UPDATE:** DUE TO AN ERROR ON THE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE PUBLISHED BY THE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE, THE **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** FOR VOICING YOUR OPPOSITION TO THAT HARMFUL PROPOSED RULE (RULE 64B15-14.014) **IS NOW EXTENDED THROUGH DECEMBER 28, 2022!**

FOR FOLKS WHO ALREADY SUBMITTED THEIR COMMENTS:

If you submitted your comment to the email address that was incorrect as listed on the Nov. 14th Notice of Proposed Rule (Danielle.Terrelleflhealth.com) please resend it to the correct email address as listed on the Dec. 7th Notice of Correction (Danielle.Terrelleflhealth.gov)

Note the difference is [.com](mailto:Danielle.Terrelleflhealth.com) versus [.gov](mailto:Danielle.Terrelleflhealth.gov)

Notice of Change/Withdrawal

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Board of Osteopathic Medicine

RULE NO.: RULE TITLE:

64B15-14.014 Standards of Practice for the Treatment of Gender Dysphoria in Minors

NOTICE OF CORRECTION

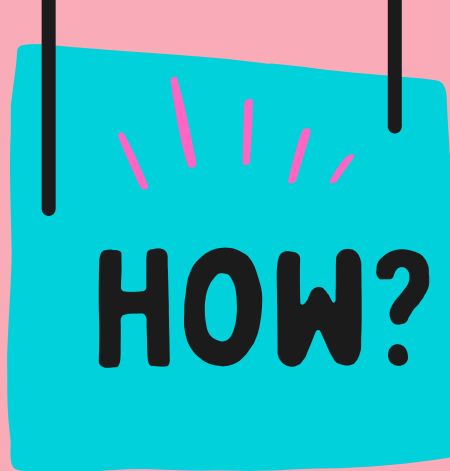
Notice is hereby given that the following correction has been made to the proposed rule in Vol. 48 No. 221, November 14, 2022 issue of the Florida Administrative Register.

The notice of proposed rule filed in this matter on November 14, 2022, provided an incorrect email address for the "Person to be contacted regarding the proposed rule." This corrected notice is now being filed to provide the correct email address for the contact person. All interested persons and those who previously submitted comments or a request for hearing to the email address from the November 14, 2022, notice may submit comments or a request for hearing within 21 days of the date of the publication of this notice to the address set forth below.

The email address now reads:

THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED RULE IS: Danielle Terrell, Executive Director, Board of Osteopathic Medicine/MQA, 1052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C06, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3256, or by email at Danielle.Terrell@flhealth.gov

Email your comment before December 28th!



FOR FOLKS WHO HAVE NOT YET SUBMITTED THEIR COMMENT:

YOU DIDN'T MISS YOUR CHANCE!

YOU HAVE UNTIL DECEMBER 28TH TO SPEAK OUT! YOU CAN STAND UP FOR THE RIGHTS OF TRANSGENDER YOUTH TO ACCESS **SAFE, EFFECTIVE, MEDICALLY NECESSARY HEALTHCARE BY SUBMITTING A PUBLIC COMMENT OPPOSING THE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE'S PROPOSED RULE.**



YOU CAN ALSO SUBMIT YOUR COMMENT THROUGH THE PORTAL CREATED BY OUR PARTNER ORGANIZATION, EQUALITY FLORIDA AT:

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/3U3KDTD](https://bit.ly/3U3KDTD)

QUICK FACTS



THE BOARDS: AN OVERVIEW

- The Boards consist of individuals who are appointed by the Governor
- The **Board of Medicine** governs the practice of **M.D.s** (doctors of medicine) in the state of Florida.
- The **Board of Osteopathic Medicine** governs the practice of **D.O.'s** (doctors of osteopathic medicine) in the state of Florida.
- The Boards can promulgate rules to establish **standards of practice and standards of care** (Florida Statutes 458.331(1)(v) & 459.015(1)(z))

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO PROPOSED RULES?

- **BOTH rules prohibit** doctors from providing therapies and procedures, including surgical procedures, that are performed for the treatment of gender dysphoria in minors.
- **BOTH rules allow** for any minor who is already being treated with puberty blocking medications or hormone therapies **prior to the effective date of this rule to continue** with such therapies.
- **The Board of Osteopathic Medicine's Proposed Rule (64B15-14.014)** has an **exception where D.O.'s can prescribe blockers or hormones to prospective patients** (i.e. minors who had not yet begun receiving such care prior to the effective date of the rule), as long as the patient is enrolled in an **IRB approved clinical trial** at a Florida medical school.
- **The Board of Medicine's Proposed Rule (64B8-9.019)** does **not contain a similar exception** for M.D.'s.

QUICK FACTS



- **GENDER DYSPHORIA IS A SERIOUS MEDICAL CONDITION, THE DIAGNOSIS OF WHICH IS CODIFIED IN THE AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION'S "DSM-5"**
- **GENDER DYSPHORIA, IF LEFT UNTREATED, MAY RESULT IN DEBILITATING ANXIETY, SEVERE DEPRESSION, SELF-HARM, AND EVEN SUICIDALITY. THE LONGER A PERSON GOES WITHOUT APPROPRIATE TREATMENT FOR GENDER DYSPHORIA, THE GREATER THE RISK OF SEVERE HARM TO THEIR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.**
- **TREATMENT FOR GENDER DYSPHORIA IS PROVIDED PURSUANT TO WELL-ESTABLISHED GUIDELINES, DEVELOPED THROUGH DECADES OF RESEARCH AND CLINICAL PRACTICE. LIKE ALL MEDICAL CARE, TREATMENT FOR GENDER DYSPHORIA IS INDIVIDUALIZED AND BASED ON THE NEEDS OF THE PATIENT.**
- **FOR MORE THAN FOUR DECADES, MEDICAL ORGANIZATIONS HAVE STUDIED AND CREATED EVIDENCE-BASED STANDARDS FOR THE TREATMENT OF GENDER DYSPHORIA. THESE GUIDELINES ARE PUBLISHED BY THE WORLD PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR TRANSGENDER HEALTH ("WPATH") AND THE ENDOCRINE SOCIETY, AND ARE SUPPORTED BY EVERY MAJOR MEDICAL ASSOCIATION IN OUR COUNTRY.**
- **FOR MINORS WITH GENDER DYSPHORIA, THE PRECISE TREATMENTS ARE DETERMINED BY A TEAM OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, INCLUDING MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE PATIENT AND THE PATIENT'S PARENTS OR GUARDIANS.**

**THE STATE SHOULD NOT STAND BETWEEN
DOCTORS, PATIENTS, & PARENTS !**