



1 "Guardian" means a court-appointed guardian of the person  
2 of the minor.

3 "Physician" means an individual licensed to practice  
4 medicine in this State.

5 "Unemancipated minor" includes a minor who is unmarried.

6 § -2 Parental notice. (a) A physician may not perform an  
7 abortion on a pregnant unemancipated minor unless:

8 (1) The physician performing the abortion gives at least  
9 seventy-two hours actual notice, in person or by  
10 telephone, of the physician's intent to perform  
11 the abortion to:

12 (A) A parent of the minor, if the minor has no  
13 guardian; or

14 (B) A court-appointed guardian;

15 (2) The judge of a family district court or the intermediate  
16 appellate court issues an order authorizing the minor  
17 to consent to the abortion as provided by section -  
18 3 or -4;

19 (3) A family court or the intermediate appellate court, by  
20 its inaction, constructively authorizes the minor  
21 to consent to the abortion as provided by section  
22 -3 or -4; or



1 (4) The physician performing the abortion:

2 (A) Concludes that, on the basis of the  
3 physician's good faith clinical judgment, a  
4 condition exists that complicates the medical  
5 condition of the pregnant minor and necessitates  
6 the immediate abortion of her pregnancy to avert  
7 her death or to avoid a serious risk of  
8 substantial and irreversible impairment of a  
9 major bodily function; and

10 (B) Certifies in writing to the director and in  
11 the patient's medical record the medical  
12 indications supporting the physician's judgment  
13 that the circumstances described by paragraph (A)  
14 exist.

15 (b) If a person to whom notice may be given under  
16 subsection (a) (1) cannot be notified after a reasonable effort,  
17 a physician may perform an abortion if the physician gives  
18 seventy-two hours constructive notice, by certified mail,  
19 restricted delivery, sent to the last known address, to the  
20 person to whom notice may be given under subsection (a) (1). The  
21 period under this subsection begins when the notice is mailed.  
22 If the person required to be notified is not notified within the



1 seventy-two-hour period, the abortion may proceed even if the  
2 notice by mail is not received.

3 (c) The requirement that seventy-two hours actual notice be  
4 provided under this section may be waived by an affidavit of:

5 (1) A parent of the minor, if the minor has no guardian; or

6 (2) A court-appointed guardian.

7 (d) A physician may execute, for inclusion in the minor's  
8 medical record, an affidavit stating that, according to the best  
9 information and belief of the physician, notice or constructive  
10 notice has been provided as required by this section. Execution  
11 of an affidavit under this subsection creates a presumption that  
12 the requirements of this section have been satisfied.

13 (e) The director shall prepare a form to be used for making  
14 the certification required by subsection (a) (4).

15 (f) A certification required by subsection (a) (4) is  
16 confidential and privileged and is not subject to disclosure  
17 under chapter 92F or to discovery, subpoena, or other legal  
18 process. Personal or identifying information about the minor,  
19 including her name, address, or social security number, may not  
20 be included in a certification under subsection (a) (4). The  
21 physician shall keep the medical records on the minor in



1 compliance with the rules adopted by the board of medical  
2 examiners.

3 (g) A physician who intentionally performs an abortion on a  
4 pregnant unemancipated minor in violation of this section  
5 commits an offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$10,000.  
6 "Intentionally" has the same meaning as in section 702-206.

7 (h) It is a defense to prosecution under this section that  
8 the minor falsely represented her age, or her identity to the  
9 physician by displaying an apparently valid governmental record  
10 of identification such that a reasonable person under similar  
11 circumstances would have relied on the representation. The  
12 defense does not apply if the physician is shown to have had  
13 independent knowledge of the minor's actual age or identity or  
14 failed to use due diligence in determining the minor's age or  
15 identity. In this subsection, "defense" has the same meaning as  
16 in section 701-115.

17 (i) In relation to the trial of an offense under this  
18 section in which the conduct charged involves a conclusion made  
19 by the physician under subsection (a)(4), the defendant may seek  
20 a hearing before the board of medical examiners on whether the  
21 physician's conduct was necessary to avert the death of the  
22 minor or to avoid a serious risk of substantial and irreversible



1 impairment of a major bodily function. The findings of the board  
2 of medical examiners under this subsection are admissible on  
3 that issue in the trial of the defendant. Notwithstanding any  
4 other reason for a continuance provided by law, on motion of the  
5 defendant, the court shall delay the beginning of the trial for  
6 not more than thirty days to permit a hearing under this  
7 subsection to take place.

8       **§ -3 Judicial approval.** (a) A pregnant minor who wishes to  
9 have an abortion without notification to one of her parents or  
10 her guardian may file an application for a court order  
11 authorizing the minor to consent to the performance of an  
12 abortion without notification to either of her parents or a  
13 guardian.

14       (b) The application may be filed in any family court at law  
15 in this State.

16       (c) The application must be made under oath and include:

17       (1) A statement that the minor is pregnant;

18       (2) A statement that the minor is unmarried and is under  
19             eighteen years of age;

20       (3) A statement that the minor wishes to have an abortion  
21             without the notification of either of her parents or a  
22             guardian; and



1           (4) A statement as to whether the minor has retained  
2           an attorney and, if she has retained an attorney, the  
3           name, address, and telephone number of her attorney.

4           (d) The clerk of the court shall deliver a courtesy copy of  
5           the application made under this section to the judge who is to  
6           hear the application.

7           (e) The court shall appoint a guardian ad litem for the  
8           minor. If the minor has not retained an attorney, the court  
9           shall appoint an attorney to represent the minor. If the  
10          guardian ad litem is an attorney admitted to the practice of law  
11          in this State, the court may appoint the guardian ad litem to  
12          serve as the minor's attorney.

13          (f) The court may appoint to serve as guardian ad litem:

14          (1) A person who may consent to treatment for the minor as  
15               provided by law;

16          (2) A psychiatrist or an individual licensed or certified as  
17               a psychologist in this State;

18          (3) An appropriate employee of the department of human  
19               services;

20          (4) A member of the clergy; or

21          (5) Another appropriate person selected by the court.



1 (g) The court shall fix a time for a hearing on an  
2 application filed under subsection (a) and shall keep a record  
3 of all testimony and other oral proceedings in the action. The  
4 court shall enter judgment on the application immediately after  
5 the hearing is concluded.

6 (h) The court shall rule on an application submitted under  
7 this section and shall issue written findings of fact and  
8 conclusions of law not later than 5:00 p.m. on the second  
9 business day after the date the application is filed with the  
10 court. On request by the minor, the court shall grant an  
11 extension of the period specified by this subsection. If a  
12 request for an extension is made, the court shall rule on an  
13 application and shall issue written findings of fact and  
14 conclusions of law not later than 5:00 p.m. on the second  
15 business day after the date the minor states she is ready to  
16 proceed to hearing. If the court fails to rule on the  
17 application and issue written findings of fact and conclusions  
18 of law within the period specified by this subsection, the  
19 application is deemed to be granted and the physician may  
20 perform the abortion as if the court had issued an order  
21 authorizing the minor to consent to the performance of the  
22 abortion without notification under section -2. Proceedings



1 under this section shall be given precedence over other pending  
2 matters to the extent necessary to ensure that the court reaches  
3 a decision promptly.

4 (i) The court shall determine by a preponderance of the  
5 evidence whether notification would not be in the best interest  
6 of the minor or whether notification may lead to physical or  
7 sexual abuse of the minor. If the court finds that notification  
8 would not be in the minor's best interest, or that notification  
9 may lead to physical or sexual abuse of the minor, the court  
10 shall enter an order authorizing the minor to consent to the  
11 performance of the abortion without notification to either of  
12 her parents or a guardian and shall execute the required forms.

13 (j) If the court finds that the minor does not meet the  
14 requirements of subsection (i), the court may not authorize the  
15 minor to consent to an abortion without the notification  
16 authorized under section -2(a)(1).

17 (k) The court may not notify a parent or guardian that the  
18 minor is pregnant or that the minor wants to have an abortion.  
19 The court proceedings shall be conducted in a manner that  
20 protects the anonymity of the minor. The application and all  
21 other court documents pertaining to the proceedings are  
22 confidential and privileged and are not subject to disclosure



1 under chapter 92F, or to discovery, subpoena, or other legal  
2 process. The minor may file the application using a pseudonym or  
3 using only her initials.

4 (l) An order of the court issued under this section is  
5 confidential and privileged and is not subject to disclosure  
6 under chapter 92F, or discovery, subpoena, or other legal  
7 process. The order may not be released to any person but the  
8 pregnant minor, the pregnant minor's guardian ad litem, the  
9 pregnant minor's attorney, another person designated to receive  
10 the order by the minor, or a governmental agency or attorney in  
11 a criminal or administrative action seeking to assert or protect  
12 the interest of the minor. The supreme court may adopt rules to  
13 permit confidential docketing of an application under this  
14 section.

15 (m) The clerk of the family court shall prescribe the  
16 application form to be used by the minor filing an application  
17 under this section.

18 (n) A filing fee is not required of and court costs may not  
19 be assessed against a minor filing an application under this  
20 section.

21 § -4 Appeal. (a) A minor whose application under section  
22 -3 is denied may appeal to the intermediate appellate court.



1 On receipt of a notice of appeal, the clerk of the court that  
2 denied the application shall deliver a copy of the notice of  
3 appeal and record on appeal to the clerk of the intermediate  
4 appellate court. On receipt of the notice and record, the clerk  
5 of the intermediate appellate court shall place the appeal on  
6 the docket of the court.

7 (b) The intermediate appellate court shall rule on an  
8 appeal under this section not later than 5:00 p.m. on the second  
9 business day after the date the notice of appeal is filed with  
10 the court that denied the application. On request by the minor,  
11 the court shall grant an extension of the period specified by  
12 this subsection. If a request for an extension is made, the  
13 court shall rule on the appeal not later than 5:00 p.m. on the  
14 second business day after the date the minor states she is ready  
15 to proceed. If the intermediate appellate court fails to rule on  
16 the appeal within the period specified by this subsection, the  
17 appeal is deemed to be granted and the physician may perform the  
18 abortion as if the court had issued an order authorizing the  
19 minor to consent to the performance of the abortion without  
20 notification under section -2. Proceedings under this section  
21 shall be given precedence over other pending matters to the



1 extent necessary to ensure that the court reaches a decision  
2 promptly.

3 (c) A ruling of the intermediate appellate court under this  
4 section is confidential and privileged and is not subject to  
5 disclosure under chapter 92F, or discovery, subpoena, or other  
6 legal process. The ruling may not be released to any person but  
7 the pregnant minor, the pregnant minor's guardian ad litem, the  
8 pregnant minor's attorney, another person designated to receive  
9 the ruling by the minor, or a governmental agency or attorney in  
10 a criminal or administrative action seeking to assert or protect  
11 the interest of the minor. The supreme court may adopt rules to  
12 permit confidential docketing of an appeal under this section.

13 (d) The clerk of the intermediate appellate court shall  
14 prescribe the notice of appeal form to be used by the minor  
15 appealing a judgment under this section.

16 (e) A filing fee is not required of and court costs may not  
17 be assessed against a minor filing an appeal under this section.

18 § -5 Affidavit of physician. (a) A physician may execute  
19 for inclusion in the minor's medical record an affidavit stating  
20 that, after reasonable inquiry, it is the belief of the  
21 physician that:



- 1 (1) The minor has made an application or filed a notice of
- 2 an appeal with a court under this chapter;
- 3 (2) The deadline for court action imposed by this chapter
- 4 has passed; and
- 5 (3) The physician has been notified that the court has not
- 6 denied the application or appeal.

7 (b) A physician who in good faith has executed an affidavit  
8 under subsection (a) may rely on the affidavit and may perform  
9 the abortion as if the court had issued an order granting the  
10 application or appeal.

11 **§ -6 Guardian ad litem immunity.** A guardian ad litem  
12 appointed under this chapter and acting in the course and scope  
13 of the appointment is not liable for damages arising from an act  
14 or omission of the guardian ad litem committed in good faith.

15 **§ -7 Costs paid by State.** (a) A court acting under  
16 section -3 or -4 may issue an order requiring the State to  
17 pay:

- 18 (1) The cost of any attorney ad litem and any guardian ad
- 19 litem appointed for the minor;
- 20 (2) Notwithstanding sections -3(n) and -4(e), the
- 21 costs of court associated with the application or
- 22 appeal; and



1 (3) Any court reporter's fees incurred.

2 (b) An order issued under subsection (a) must be directed  
3 to the director of finance, who shall pay the amount ordered  
4 from funds appropriated to the department of health.

5 **§ -8 Physician's duty to report abuse of a minor;**  
6 **investigation and assistance.** (a) A physician who, as a result  
7 of services provided under this chapter, has reason to believe  
8 that a minor has been or may be physically or sexually abused by  
9 a person responsible for the minor's care, custody, or welfare,  
10 shall immediately report the suspected abuse to the department  
11 of human services and shall refer the minor to the department  
12 for services or intervention that may be in the best interest of  
13 the minor.

14 (b) The department of human services shall investigate  
15 suspected abuse reported under this section and, if appropriate,  
16 shall assist the minor in making an application with a court  
17 under section -3.

18 **§ -9 Other reports of sexual abuse of a minor.**  
19 Notwithstanding any other law or professional standards of  
20 conduct to the contrary, a court or the guardian ad litem or  
21 attorney for the minor shall report conduct reasonably believed  
22 to constitute an offense under part V of chapter 707, based on



1 information obtained during a confidential court proceeding held  
2 under this chapter to:

3 (1) Any county or state law enforcement agency;

4 (2) The department of human services, if the alleged conduct  
5 involves a person responsible for the care, custody,  
6 or welfare of the child;

7 (3) The state agency that operates, licenses, certifies, or  
8 registers the facility in which the alleged conduct  
9 occurred, if the alleged conduct occurred in a  
10 facility operated, licensed, certified, or registered  
11 by a state agency; or

12 (4) An appropriate agency designated by the court.

13 **§ -10 Confidentiality.** Notwithstanding any other law,  
14 information obtained by the department of human services or  
15 another entity under section -8 or -9 is confidential  
16 except to the extent necessary to prove an offense under part V  
17 of chapter 707.

18 **§ -11 Information relating to judicial bypass.** The  
19 department of health shall produce and distribute informational  
20 materials that explain the rights of a minor under this chapter.  
21 The materials shall explain the procedures established by  
22 sections -3 and -4 and provide information relating to



1 alternatives to abortion and health risks associated with  
2 abortion."

3 SECTION 2. If any provision of this Act, or the application  
4 thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
5 invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of  
6 the Act, which can be given effect without the invalid provision  
7 or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are  
8 severable.

9 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval

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INTRODUCED BY:

*Calvin Meyer*  
*Carroll J.*  
*K. P.*  
*Jim Wood*

JAN 19 2007



**Report Title:**

Abortion; Parental Notice

**Description:**

Prohibits physician from performing an abortion on a minor unless: (1) the physician has given 72 hours actual notice to the minor's parents or guardian; (2) a family court or appellate court authorizes the minor to consent, either by issuing an appropriate order or by failing to do so; or (3) the physician concludes that an abortion is necessary to avoid death or a serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function. Prescribes procedure for obtaining judicial approval.

