

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to Parents' Bill of Rights; creating
3 chapter 1014, F.S.; creating s. 1014.01, F.S.;
4 providing a short title; creating s. 1014.02, F.S.;
5 providing legislative findings; defining the term
6 "parent"; creating s. 1014.03, F.S.; providing that
7 the state, its political subdivisions, other
8 governmental entities, or other institutions may not
9 infringe on parental rights without demonstrating
10 specified information; creating s. 1014.04, F.S.;
11 providing that a parent of a minor child has specified
12 rights relating to his or her minor child; prohibiting
13 the state from infringing upon specified parental
14 rights; providing that certain actions by specified
15 individuals are grounds for disciplinary actions
16 against such individuals; prohibiting specified
17 parental rights from being denied or abridged;
18 providing construction; creating s. 1014.05, F.S.;
19 requiring each district school board to develop and
20 adopt a policy to promote parental involvement in the
21 public school system; providing requirements for such
22 policy; defining the term "instructional materials";
23 authorizing a district school board to provide such
24 policy electronically or on its website; authorizing a
25 parent to request certain information in writing;

26 providing a procedure for the denial of such
 27 information; creating s. 1014.06, F.S.; prohibiting
 28 certain health care practitioners and their employees
 29 from taking specified actions without a parent's
 30 written permission; prohibiting a health care facility
 31 from allowing certain actions without a parent's
 32 written permission; providing exceptions; providing
 33 for disciplinary actions and criminal penalties;
 34 amending s. 408.813, F.S.; providing that certain
 35 violations relating to parental consent are grounds
 36 for administrative fines for health care facilities;
 37 amending s. 456.072, F.S.; providing that failure to
 38 comply with certain parental consent requirements is
 39 grounds for disciplinary action for health care
 40 practitioners; providing an effective date.

41

42 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

43

44 Section 1. Chapter 1014, Florida Statutes, consisting of
 45 ss. 1014.01-1014.06, is created and shall be entitled "Parents'
 46 Bill of Rights."

47 Section 2. Section 1014.01, Florida Statutes, is created
 48 to read:

49 1014.01 Short title.—This section and ss. 1014.02-1014.06
 50 may be cited as the "Parents' Bill of Rights."

51 Section 3. Section 1014.02, Florida Statutes, is created
 52 to read:

53 1014.02 Legislative findings and definition.-

54 (1) The Legislature finds that it is a fundamental right
 55 of parents to direct the upbringing, education, and care of
 56 their minor children. The Legislature further finds that
 57 important information relating to a minor child should not be
 58 withheld, either inadvertently or purposefully, from his or her
 59 parent, including information relating to the minor child's
 60 health, well-being, and education, while the minor child is in
 61 the custody of the school district. The Legislature further
 62 finds it is necessary to establish a consistent mechanism for
 63 parents to be notified of information relating to the health and
 64 well-being of their minor children.

65 (2) For purposes of this chapter, the term "parent" means
 66 a person who has legal custody of a minor child as a natural or
 67 adoptive parent or a legal guardian.

68 Section 4. Section 1014.03, Florida Statutes, is created
 69 to read:

70 1014.03 Infringement of parental rights.-The state, any of
 71 its political subdivisions, any other governmental entity, or
 72 any other institution may not infringe on the fundamental rights
 73 of a parent to direct the upbringing, education, health care,
 74 and mental health of his or her minor child without
 75 demonstrating that such action is reasonable and necessary to

76 | achieve a compelling state interest and that such action is
77 | narrowly tailored and is not otherwise served by a less
78 | restrictive means.

79 | Section 5. Section 1014.04, Florida Statutes, is created
80 | to read:

81 | 1014.04 Parental rights.—

82 | (1) All parental rights are reserved to the parent of a
83 | minor child in this state without obstruction or interference
84 | from the state, any of its political subdivisions, any other
85 | governmental entity, or any other institution, including, but
86 | not limited to, all of the following rights of a parent of a
87 | minor child in this state:

88 | (a) The right to direct the education and care of his or
89 | her minor child.

90 | (b) The right to direct the upbringing and the moral or
91 | religious training of his or her minor child.

92 | (c) The right, pursuant to s. 1002.20(2)(b) and (6), to
93 | apply to enroll his or her minor child in a public school or, as
94 | an alternative to public education, a private school, including
95 | a religious school, a home education program, or other available
96 | options, as authorized by law.

97 | (d) The right, pursuant to s. 1002.20(13), to access and
98 | review all school records relating to his or her minor child.

99 | (e) The right to make health care decisions for his or her
100 | minor child, unless otherwise prohibited by law.

101 (f) The right to access and review all medical records of
102 his or her minor child, unless prohibited by law or if the
103 parent is the subject of an investigation of a crime committed
104 against the minor child and a law enforcement agency or official
105 requests that the information not be released.

106 (g) The right to consent in writing before a biometric
107 scan of his or her minor child is made, shared, or stored.

108 (h) The right to consent in writing before any record of
109 his or her minor child's blood or deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) is
110 created, stored, or shared, except as required by general law or
111 authorized pursuant to a court order.

112 (i) The right to consent in writing before the state or
113 any of its political subdivisions makes a video or voice
114 recording of his or her minor child unless such recording is
115 made during or as part of a court proceeding or is made as part
116 of a forensic interview in a criminal or Department of Children
117 and Families investigation or is to be used solely for the
118 following purposes:

119 1. A safety demonstration, including the maintenance of
120 order and discipline in the common areas of a school or on
121 student transportation vehicles;

122 2. A purpose related to a legitimate academic or
123 extracurricular activity;

124 3. A purpose related to regular classroom instructions;

125 4. Security or surveillance of buildings or grounds; or

126 5. A photo identification card.

127 (j) The right to be notified promptly if an employee of
 128 the state, any of its political subdivisions, any other
 129 governmental entity, or any other institution suspects that a
 130 criminal offense has been committed against his or her minor
 131 child, unless the incident has first been reported to law
 132 enforcement or the Department of Children and Families and
 133 notifying the parent would impede the investigation.

134 (2) This section does not:

135 (a) Authorize a parent of a minor child in this state to
 136 engage in conduct that is unlawful or to abuse or neglect his or
 137 her minor child in violation of general law;

138 (b) Condone, authorize, approve, or apply to a parental
 139 action or decision that would end life;

140 (c) Prohibit a court of competent jurisdiction, law
 141 enforcement officer, or employees of a government agency that is
 142 responsible for child welfare from acting in his or her official
 143 capacity within the reasonable and prudent scope of his or her
 144 authority; or

145 (d) Prohibit a court of competent jurisdiction from
 146 issuing an order that is otherwise permitted by law.

147 (3) An employee of the state, any of its political
 148 subdivisions, or any other governmental entity who encourages or
 149 coerces, or attempts to encourage or coerce, a minor child to
 150 withhold information from his or her parent may be subject to

151 disciplinary action.

152 (4) A parent of a minor child in this state has
153 inalienable rights that are more comprehensive than those listed
154 in this section, unless such rights have been legally waived or
155 terminated. This chapter does not prescribe all rights to a
156 parent of a minor child in this state. Unless required by law,
157 the rights of a parent of a minor child in this state may not be
158 limited or denied. This chapter may not be construed to apply to
159 a parental action or decision that would end life.

160 Section 6. Section 1014.05, Florida Statutes, is created
161 to read:

162 1014.05 School district notifications on parental rights.—

163 (1) Each district school board shall, in consultation with
164 parents, teachers, and administrators, develop and adopt a
165 policy to promote parental involvement in the public school
166 system. Such policy must include:

167 (a) A plan, pursuant to s. 1002.23, for parental
168 participation in schools to improve parent and teacher
169 cooperation in such areas as homework, school attendance, and
170 discipline.

171 (b) A procedure, pursuant to s. 1002.20(19)(b), for a
172 parent to learn about his or her minor child's course of study,
173 including the source of any supplemental education materials.

174 (c) Procedures, pursuant to s. 1006.28(2)(a)2., for a
175 parent to object to instructional materials and other materials

176 used in the classroom. Such objections may be based on beliefs
177 regarding morality, sex, and religion or the belief that such
178 materials are harmful. For purposes of this section, the term
179 "instructional materials" has the same meaning as in s.
180 1006.29(2) and may include other materials used in the
181 classroom, including workbooks and worksheets, handouts,
182 software, applications, and any digital media made available to
183 students.

184 (d) Procedures, pursuant to s. 1002.20(3)(d), for a parent
185 to withdraw his or her minor child from any portion of the
186 school district's comprehensive health education required under
187 s. 1003.42(2)(n) that relates to sex education or instruction in
188 acquired immune deficiency syndrome education or any instruction
189 regarding sexuality if the parent provides a written objection
190 to his or her minor child's participation. Such procedures must
191 provide for a parent to be notified in advance of such course
192 content so that he or she may withdraw his or her minor child
193 from those portions of the course.

194 (e) Procedures, pursuant to s. 1006.195(1)(a), for a
195 parent to learn about the nature and purpose of clubs and
196 activities offered at his or her minor child's school, including
197 those that are extracurricular or part of the school curriculum.

198 (f) Procedures for a parent to learn about parental rights
199 and responsibilities under general law, including all of the
200 following:

201 1. Pursuant to s. 1002.20(3)(d), the right to opt his or
202 her minor child out of any portion of the school district's
203 comprehensive health education required under s. 1003.42(2)(n)
204 that relates to sex education instruction in acquired immune
205 deficiency syndrome education or any instruction regarding
206 sexuality.

207 2. A plan to disseminate information, pursuant to s.
208 1002.20(6), about school choice options, including open
209 enrollment.

210 3. In accordance with s. 1002.20(3)(b), the right of a
211 parent to exempt his or her minor child from immunizations.

212 4. In accordance with s. 1008.22, the right of a parent to
213 review statewide, standardized assessment results.

214 5. In accordance with s. 1003.57, the right of a parent to
215 enroll his or her minor child in gifted or special education
216 programs.

217 6. In accordance with s. 1006.28(2)(a)1., the right of a
218 parent to inspect school district instructional materials.

219 7. In accordance with s. 1008.25, the right of a parent to
220 access information relating to the school district's policies
221 for promotion or retention, including high school graduation
222 requirements.

223 8. In accordance with s. 1002.20(14), the right of a
224 parent to receive a school report card and be informed of his or
225 her minor child's attendance requirements.

226 9. In accordance with s. 1002.23, the right of a parent to
227 access information relating to the state public education
228 system, state standards, report card requirements, attendance
229 requirements, and instructional materials requirements.

230 10. In accordance with s. 1002.23(4), the right of a
231 parent to participate in parent-teacher associations and
232 organizations that are sanctioned by a district school board or
233 the Department of Education.

234 11. In accordance with s. 1002.222(1)(a), the right of a
235 parent to opt out of any district-level data collection relating
236 to his or her minor child not required by law.

237 (2) A district school board may provide the information
238 required in this section electronically or post such information
239 on its website.

240 (3) A parent may request, in writing, from the district
241 school superintendent the information required under this
242 section. Within 10 days, the district school superintendent must
243 provide such information to the parent. If the district school
244 superintendent denies a parent's request for information or does
245 not respond to the parent's request within 10 days, the parent
246 may appeal the denial to the district school board. The district
247 school board must place a parent's appeal on the agenda for its
248 next public meeting. If it is too late for a parent's appeal to
249 appear on the next agenda, the appeal must be included on the
250 agenda for the subsequent meeting.

251 Section 7. Section 1014.06, Florida Statutes, is created
 252 to read:

253 1014.06 Parental consent for health care services.-

254 (1) Except as otherwise provided by law, a health care
 255 practitioner, as defined in s. 456.001, or an individual
 256 employed by such health care practitioner may not provide or
 257 solicit or arrange to provide health care services or prescribe
 258 medicinal drugs to a minor child without first obtaining written
 259 parental consent.

260 (2) Except as otherwise provided by law or a court order,
 261 a provider, as defined in s. 408.803, may not allow a medical
 262 procedure to be performed on a minor child in its facility
 263 without first obtaining written parental consent.

264 (3) This section does not apply to an abortion, which is
 265 governed by chapter 390.

266 (4) This section does not apply to services provided by a
 267 clinical laboratory, unless the services are delivered through a
 268 direct encounter with the minor at the clinical laboratory
 269 facility. For purposes of this subsection, the term "clinical
 270 laboratory" has the same meaning as provided in s. 483.803.

271 (5) A health care practitioner or other person who
 272 violates this section is subject to disciplinary action pursuant
 273 to s. 408.813 or s. 456.072, as applicable, and commits a
 274 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
 275 775.082 or s. 775.083.

276 Section 8. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (3) of
 277 section 408.813, Florida Statutes, to read:

278 408.813 Administrative fines; violations.—As a penalty for
 279 any violation of this part, authorizing statutes, or applicable
 280 rules, the agency may impose an administrative fine.

281 (3) The agency may impose an administrative fine for a
 282 violation that is not designated as a class I, class II, class
 283 III, or class IV violation. Unless otherwise specified by law,
 284 the amount of the fine may not exceed \$500 for each violation.
 285 Unclassified violations include:

286 (f) Violating the parental consent requirements of s.
 287 1014.06.

288 Section 9. Paragraph (rr) is added to subsection (1) of
 289 section 456.072, Florida Statutes, to read:

290 456.072 Grounds for discipline; penalties; enforcement.—

291 (1) The following acts shall constitute grounds for which
 292 the disciplinary actions specified in subsection (2) may be
 293 taken:

294 (rr) Failure to comply with the parental consent
 295 requirements of s. 1014.06.

296 Section 10. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.