

RESOLUTION

Subject: Protecting Kentucky’s Youth with Gender Dysphoria, Their Parent’s Autonomy, and the Doctor-Patient Relationship in Providing Evidence-Based Care

Submitted by: Northern Kentucky Medical Society

Referred to: Reference Committee

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WHEREAS, youth are experiencing high rates of mental health conditions such as depression, suicidal ideation, and anxiety; and

WHEREAS, youth with gender dysphoria exhibit even higher rates of mental health conditions such as depression, suicidal ideation, and anxiety than peers; and

WHEREAS, there are evidence-based approaches to medically treat gender dysphoria and associated mental health conditions that are supported by major medical associations; and

WHEREAS, parent or guardian consent is required for medical treatment of gender dysphoria in children under 18 years of age; and

WHEREAS, surgeries to treat gender dysphoria are not recommended for individuals under 18 years of age; and

WHEREAS, parents’ authority in making medical decisions in consultation with their minor children’s healthcare providers should be protected; and

WHEREAS, several states have enacted bills banning the provision of medical or behavioral health treatment to youth with gender dysphoria and such bills have been introduced in the Kentucky legislature; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that KMA advocate against any prohibition of physicians or other healthcare providers socially affirming gender identity or discussing evidence-based therapies for the management of gender dysphoria with their patients and their parents; and be it further

RESOLVED, that KMA support evidence-based standards of care for the treatment of gender dysphoria including behavioral health or medical non-surgical treatment provided to youth by appropriately trained and experienced healthcare providers.