

SB397: School-Based Health Centers – Creation and Operation.

Message: SB397 is the gateway used to reach our students with the harmful provisions of HB7 and SB13. As law, this bill institutes School-Based Health Centers, giving our students direct access to abortion procedures and transgender interventions while (1) violating parents' rights, (2) violating freedom of speech for conscientious objectors, and (3) harming our students rather than helping them.

Talking Points:

- (1) Students of all ages will now have direct access to a myriad of services including multiple forms of birth-control, referrals for abortions, gender-transition counseling, and referrals to or the provision of hormone blockers; all without the requirement of parental notification.
- (2) Health care providers who work within these School-based health centers will be required to provide or refer for services including abortions and transgender interventions regardless of moral or religious objections.
- (3) School-based health centers further drive wedges between parents and their children by creating avenues to dangerous and permanent procedures without involving parents. These dangerous and permanent procedures cause great harm to our children's physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Our children deserve help, not harm.

Break it down and understand:

(1) Once again, no age requirement is given in SB397 which makes harmful interventions directly available to our minors with no requirement to notify parents. Parents have a constitutional right to raise their children and make medical decisions with and for their children. School-based health centers blatantly cut the parent out of the picture and allow minors to make medical decisions based on their own understanding and the encouragement or direction of school-based health center providers.

(2) Language of the bill states that school-based health centers *shall* provide primary care, preventative care, mental health care and more and they *shall* refer for services that are not provided within the clinic. This language, when coupled with HB7's "shall not deny, restrict, or interfere" language and SB13's protections for those "assisting someone seeking" these services, requires any employee of a school-based health clinic to refer a student for abortion or transgender interventions regardless of the employee's moral or religious objection.

(3) Abortion and transgender interventions are harmful to our children. A child's brain is not fully developed until the age of 21 and therefore should not be making permanent life-changing decisions on their own. School-based health clinics cut the parents out and provide access to permanent life-changing interventions. Our children deserve help, not harm; and these school-based clinics are just another avenue to cut a student off from their family unit and remove all barriers to making permanent life-changing decisions.