

One Hundred Ninth Legislature - Second Session - 2026

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1161

Chairperson: Senator Carolyn Bosn

Committee: Judiciary

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB1161 amends section 43-2101 to clarify when a person under nineteen years of age may consent to health care without the consent of a parent or guardian. The bill applies to three populations of minors:

- (1) a minor who is pregnant or experiencing a pregnancy-related medical condition,
- (2) a minor who is the parent of a dependent child, and
- (3) an individual who is eighteen years of age.

Youth in custody of the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to a juvenile court order are exempted from the bill. Because Nebraska's statutory age of majority for legal adulthood is 19, including this population would cause complications, alter the role and jurisdiction of the courts, and jeopardize these youths' eligibility for state services. DHHS has the authority to determine appropriate medical and psychiatric services for youths in its care.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Margo Juarez