

Alaska State Legislature

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Alaska State Capitol,
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Juneau, AK 99801

Senate Bill 90

Sectional Analysis (Version A)

“An Act relating to examination and treatment of minors; relating to consent for behavioral health and mental health treatment for minors 16 years of age or older; and providing for an effective date.”

Section 1. Amends AS 25.20.025: Examination and Treatment of Minors.

This section adds youth who provide documentation demonstrating they are an unaccompanied homeless minor to the list of minors who can consent to medical treatment.

This section would add behavioral and mental health services to the list of services an unaccompanied homeless minor, a minor living apart from their parents or legal guardian, and a minor who is the parent of a child, are able to consent to.

Section 2. Adds new subsections to AS. 25.20.025: Examination and Treatment of Minors.

This section adds new subsections relating to documentation required by homeless unaccompanied minors for the purposes of giving consent.

The documentation must state that the minor is:

1. 16 years of age or older
2. Does not have a fixed, regular, adequate nighttime residence; and
3. Is not in the care and physical custody of a parent or guardian,

And the document must be signed by:

1. A director or designee of a director of a governmental or nonprofit entity that receives funds to provide assistance to those who are homeless;

2. A local educational agency liaison for homeless youth, a local educational agency foster care point of contact, or a licensed clinical social worker employed by a school in the state;
3. An attorney that represents the minor; or
4. The minor and 2 adults with actual knowledge of the minor's situation.

Section 3. Adds a new section to AS. 25.20: Parent and Child.

This section would give a minor aged 16 years or older the ability to consent to receive five 90-minute sessions of outpatient behavioral or mental health appointments, without obtaining the consent of the minor's parent or guardian. It then outlines what would happen in the case a minor needed continued treatment.

Section 4. Amends AS. 47.10.084(c): Legal custody, guardianship, and residual parental rights and responsibilities.

This section adds the new section from section 3 to the list of exceptions of a parent's residual rights and responsibilities.

Section 5. Amends AS. 47.12.150(c): Legal custody, guardianship, and residual parental rights and responsibilities.

This section adds the new section from section 3 to the list of exceptions of a parent's residual rights and responsibilities.

Section 6. Effective date.

This section provides for an effective date of January 1, 2026.