

IDAHO'S HB71: A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR TRANS YOUTH & FAMILIES

This guide will be updated as new information & resources are available.

What does House Bill 71 say?

Idaho's [HB 71](#) is a law that restricts gender-affirming healthcare in Idaho for trans youth under the age of 18. Under this law, gender-affirming surgery, hormone therapy, and puberty blockers are inaccessible in Idaho for trans people until they turn 18. Healthcare providers who violate the law can have their medical license revoked and can be charged with a felony punishable by up to ten years in prison.

The law does **not** restrict or ban youth from accessing gender-affirming **mental** health care. The law does **not** prohibit people from leaving Idaho and traveling to access care in states where it is legal to do so, and a court would likely agree that it is unconstitutional to block people from traveling to other states.

Additionally, in 2024 Idaho passed [HB668](#), a policy that prohibits any public funds from being used to pay for gender-affirming healthcare for patients of any age. This means that state-sponsored insurance programs, including Idaho's Medicaid insurance program and government employee insurance, cannot be used to help cover the cost of gender-affirming care; including surgery, hormone therapy, and puberty blockers. It also means that hospitals that receive state funding can no longer provide gender-affirming care to patients of any age.

When does HB71 take effect?

HB71 is currently in effect.

Does Idaho's ban on gender-affirming care impact adults?

While Idaho's gender affirming care ban does not impact adults, Idaho also passed [HB668](#), a policy that prevents public funds from being used to pay for gender-affirming healthcare for patients of any age. This means that state-sponsored insurance programs, including Idaho's Medicaid insurance program and government employee insurance, cannot be used to help cover the cost of gender-affirming care; including surgery, hormone therapy, and puberty blockers. It also means that hospitals that receive state funding can no longer provide gender-affirming care to patients of any age.

Timeline of Litigation Challenging HB71 in Court

- Idaho's ban on gender-affirming care, HB71, was passed into law on March 30th, 2023.
- The law was set to go into effect on January 1st, 2024, but was preliminarily blocked by a federal judge on December 27th, 2023.
- Then, on April 15th, 2024, the Supreme Court decided that the law could be enforced while the lawsuit is ongoing, effective for all Idaho transgender youth except for the two specific plaintiffs in the case.

- The lawsuit is ongoing. You can read more about the lawsuit from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) [here](#).

Legal Questions and Needs

- Consider consulting with an individual lawyer about your specific needs and questions.
- For general questions and needs, contact the [ACLU of Idaho](#).

Organizations Working to Advocate for Trans Youth in Idaho:

- ACLU of Idaho
- Add the Words, Idaho

For Youth and Families Who Need Support:

We know that legislation like this can cause distress. Here are some helpful resources.

- For immediate medical assistance or law enforcement assistance, call 911.
- If you are thinking about hurting yourself, contact the [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#) (now the 988 Suicide and Crisis Prevention Hotline), **OPEN 24/7, 365 DAYS/YEAR.**
 - Call: 988
 - Call: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
 - Text: 741741
 - Chat Online: Click [HERE](#) to instant message online.
- SQSH is a grassroots, queer-led collective dedicated to facilitating healing spaces and providing holistic support for queer St. Louisans to thrive. SQSH's Peer Support Helpline is open Friday through Monday, 1:00-7:00 PM CT
Local: 314-380-7774 | Toll-Free: 844-785-7774 [Schedule a Call](#)
- If you are a LGBTQ person (ages 13-24) who is thinking about hurting yourself or is in crisis, contact [The Trevor Project's 24-Hour Suicide Prevention Hotline](#), **OPEN 24/7, 365 DAYS/YEAR.**
 - Call: 866 4 U TREVOR / (866) 488-7386
 - Trevor Text: Text 'START' to 678-678
 - Trevor Chat: Click [HERE](#) to instant message online.
- If you are a transgender person (or friend/family of a transgender person) in crisis or needing support, contact the [Trans Lifeline](#), **As of January 1st, 2024, Trans Lifeline's hotline operating hours are Monday through Friday: 10 AM – 6 PM Pacific. 11 AM – 7 PM Mountain..**
 - Call: (877) 565-8860
 - Peer to Peer Support: Peer2Peer.LIVE on Twitch