

UPON THE ADVICE AND DIRECTION OF A TREATING PHYSICIAN OR IF MORE THAN ONE, ANY ONE OF THEM, inform or not inform the spouse, parent, custodian or guardian of the minor's condition or affliction or need for, or reception of hospital or clinical care or services or medical or surgical care or services by the physician, and providing that this information may be given or withheld without the consent of the minor involved, and even over the express refusal of the minor to the provision of such information, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS, and, finally, providing that the provisions of this Section shall apply whether the pregnancy or venereal disease is subsequently substantiated on a medical basis.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Section 149D be, and it is hereby added to Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition, 1965 Replacement Volume), title "Health", subtitle "Practitioners of Medicine", to follow immediately after Section 149C thereof, to read as follows:

*149D.*

(a) *The consent to the provision of ~~medicinal~~ MEDICAL or surgical care or services by a hospital, public clinic, or the performance of medical or surgical care or services by a physician, licensed to practice medicine, when executed by a minor who is, or professes to be married, or by a female minor who is or professes to be pregnant, or by a minor who is or professes to be afflicted with a venereal disease, shall be valid and binding as if the said minor had achieved his or her majority as the case may be; that is, a minor who is, or professes to be married, or a female minor who is, or professes to be pregnant, or a minor who is, or professes to be afflicted with a venereal disease, shall be deemed to have, and shall have the same legal capacity to act, and the same legal obligations with regard to the giving of such consent to such hospital or clinical care or services or medical or surgical care or services to be provided by a physician licensed to practice medicine, as a person of full legal age and capacity, the infancy of the said minor and any contrary provisions of law notwithstanding, and such consent shall not be subject to later disaffirmance by reason of such minority; and the consent of no other person or persons (including, but not limited to a spouse, parent, custodian, or guardian) shall be necessary in order to authorize such hospital or clinical care or services or medical or surgical care or services to be provided by a physician licensed to practice medicine to such a minor or minor's child.*

(b) ~~4~~ UPON THE ADVICE AND DIRECTION OF A TREATING PHYSICIAN OR IF MORE THAN ONE, ANY ONE OF THEM, MEMBER OF THE MEDICAL STAFF OF A hospital, public clinic, or physician licensed to practice medicine may, but shall not be obligated to, inform the spouse, parent, custodian or guardian of any such minor in the circumstances as enumerated in sub-section (a) hereof, as to the treatment given or needed, and such information may be given to, or withheld from the spouse, parent, custodian or guardian without the consent of the minor patient and even over the express refusal of the minor patient to the provision PROVIDING of such information; the ~~provision~~ PROVIDING or withholding of such information to rest in the sole discretion of the A MEMBER OF THE MEDICAL staff of the hospital, public clinic or the