

135A.

(a) A minor who has attained the age of ~~16~~ 14 years and who has or professes to have a mental or emotional disorder may consent to diagnosis and [consultation] TREATMENT of the disorder by a physician, ~~HOSPITAL~~ [, or clinic] LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE. Consent given under this section shall have in all respects the same effect as if the minor had reached majority.

(b) [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 clinic, ~~HOSPITAL~~, or] THE LICENSED 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 subsection (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 providing such information, the providing or withholding of such information to rest in the sole discretion of [a member of the medical staff of a clinic, ~~HOSPITAL~~, or] the LICENSED physician [licensed to practice medicine, as the case may be]. HOWEVER, IF THE MINOR HAS VOLUNTARILY BEEN ADMITTED TO A HOSPITAL AS AN INPATIENT, THE HOSPITAL SHALL MAKE A REASONABLE EFFORT TO NOTIFY AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE THE MINOR'S PARENT, CUSTODIAN, OR GUARDIAN THAT THE MINOR HAS BEEN ADMITTED.

(c) The parent, custodian, or guardian of a minor consenting to diagnosis and treatment under this section shall not be liable for any costs, fees, or other expenses on account of such diagnosis and treatment unless the parent, custodian, or guardian consents thereto.

~~(D) -- FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, TREATMENT FOR A MENTAL OR EMOTIONAL DISORDER DOES NOT INCLUDE ABORTION OR STERILIZATION.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1981.

May 19, 1981

The Honorable James Clark, Jr.
President of the Senate
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed Senate Bill 436.