

Article - Health - General**Part IV. Effect of Refusal to Participate OR REFER**

20-214.

(a) (1) A person may not be required to perform or participate in, OR REFER TO ANY SOURCE FOR, any medical procedure that results in artificial insemination, sterilization, or termination of pregnancy.

(2) The refusal of a person to perform or participate in, OR REFER TO A SOURCE FOR, these medical procedures may not be a basis for:

(i) Civil liability to another person; or

(ii) Disciplinary or other recriminatory action against the person.

(b) (1) A licensed hospital, hospital director, or hospital governing board may not be required [to]:

(I) TO permit, within the hospital, the performance of any medical procedure that results in artificial insemination, sterilization, or termination of pregnancy; OR

(II) TO REFER TO ANY SOURCE FOR THESE MEDICAL PROCEDURES.

(2) The refusal to permit OR TO REFER TO A SOURCE FOR these procedures may not be grounds for:

(i) Civil liability to another person; or

(ii) Disciplinary or other recriminatory action against the person by this State or any person.

(c) (1) The refusal of an individual to submit to or give consent for an abortion or sterilization may not be grounds for loss of any privileges or immunities to which the individual otherwise would be entitled.

(2) Submitting to or granting consent for an abortion or sterilization may not be a condition precedent to the receipt of any public benefits.

[(d) A person who is not a health care provider licensed or otherwise authorized to provide health care under the Health Occupations Article is not required to refer an individual to any person for any medical procedure that results in artificial insemination, sterilization, or termination of pregnancy.]

(D) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION, A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, A LICENSED HOSPITAL, A HOSPITAL DIRECTOR, OR A HOSPITAL GOVERNING BOARD IS NOT IMMUNE FROM CIVIL DAMAGES, IF AVAILABLE AT LAW, OR FROM DISCIPLINARY OR OTHER