Fiscal Analysis PARENTAL CONSENT FOR MINOR'S ABORTION



Bill/Sponsor HOUSE BILL 4478 AS INTRODUCED, Rep. William J. O'Neil

House Committee Family and Children Services

Analysis Summary

This bill would amend the Parental Rights Restoration Act, PA 211 of 1990, to add additional factors the Family Division of Circuit Court (FDCC) must consider before granting a waiver of parental consent to an abortion on a minor child. The bill states that the FDCC may only grant this waiver if the minor demonstrates a level of maturity expected of an individual who has reached the age of majority. In making this determination, the FDCC must consider seven factors; (a) the minor's age, ability to comprehend information and ability to express herself, (b) the degree of the minor's dependence on her parent or legal guardian and the degree of parental supervision in the daily affairs of the minor, (c) the minor's school attendance, academic performance, future education or career goals, (d) the circumstance's of the minor's sexual activity, including actions taken to maintain her personal health and prevent pregnancy and any previous pregnancies, (e) other life experiences that demonstrate a pattern of responsible, mature behavior, (f) the minor's knowledge of her medical history, awareness of risks of abortion and carrying her pregnancy to term, and her assessment of the psychological consequences of abortion, adoption, parenting, or placing a child for adoption, and (g) the extent to which the minor has consulted with medical and mental health professionals about alternatives to abortion. In the event the petition of waiver of parental consent is denied, this bill requires the FDCC to inform the minor of her right to appeal to the Court of Appeals.

Fiscal Impact

There is no measurable fiscal impact on either the Family Independence Agency or the Judiciary.

Analyst(s)
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COMMITTEE ANALYSIS - 6/6/03