

KENTUCKY'S SB150: A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR THE TRANS & LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

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



What does SB150 say?

[SB150](#) is a sweeping anti-LGBTQ+ bill – with several components that are especially dangerous when it comes to transgender youth accessing critical health care. The bill prohibits transgender-related healthcare in Kentucky for people under the age of 18; this means that care such as gender-affirming hormone therapy and puberty blockers will soon be inaccessible in Kentucky for most trans people until they turn 18. In-state healthcare providers who violate the law will risk losing their license.

There is vague language in the bill limiting access to gender-affirming mental health services in school settings, but these restrictions do not prohibit access to gender-affirming mental health care outside of schools.

This is an evolving area of law and the law is intentionally vague when it comes to what exactly is prohibited as well as how it is enforced. That said, the law does **not** say that people cannot leave Kentucky and 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.

When does SB150 take effect?

The components of SB 150 that impact trans youth access to gender-affirming healthcare are set to take effect June 28. Families should speak with their provider about their options in the months ahead. For trans youth who are currently taking hormones and/or puberty blockers, their provider is required to “immediately terminate” treatment, unless doing so “would cause harm,” in which case, they are required to taper that treatment. It is unclear what timeline this tapering must take place. Other components of SB 150 (including those related to trans youth safety in schools) take effect immediately. It should be noted that legal partners may challenge the law, which could block its implementation.

Litigation Challenging SB150 in Court

On May 3, 2023, the ACLU of Kentucky, the National Center for Lesbian Rights, and law firm Morgan & Lewis filed a lawsuit on behalf of courageous families and young people stating that SB150 unconstitutionally singles out transgender youth by blocking their access to healthcare, and breaches the rights of parents to make medical decisions for their children. Read more about the case [here](#).

Here are immediate steps impacted communities can take before the healthcare-related components of the bill take effect:

- 1) See your current provider as soon as possible to discuss current needs and options for continued care;
- 2) Update your therapy letters to be current to ease the burden of onboarding with new doctors out-of-state;
- 3) Fill current prescriptions with regard to gender-affirming medical care;
- 4) For questions related to navigating gender-affirming care out-of-state, please contact the Kentucky Health Justice Network at transhealth@khjn.org or [fill out this form](#).

Emergency Resources

- **Patient Navigation**: Looking to identify a provider of gender-affirming care outside of Kentucky? The Kentucky Health Justice Network can help talk you through your situation, identify affirming providers in other states, and support in other ways. To get in touch, just email transhealth@khjn.org or [fill out this form](#).
- **Rapid Response Grants**: Campaign for Southern Equality and the Kentucky Health Justice Network are, in partnership, facilitating rapid response emergency funds of \$250, available to families impacted by the anti-transgender healthcare provisions of SB150. Families from across the state can submit a request *by emailing* KYResources@southernequality.org by filling out the form at: <https://southernequality.org/KYResources>.
- **Need a Referral Letter?** Transcending Stigma provides referral letters for clients seeking transition related services for insurance and medical providers.

Connect with Community Organizations

- The Kentucky Health Justice Network has tons of resources related to accessing transgender-related healthcare and social support in Kentucky. [Please visit their website](#) for information on support groups, affirming mental health care, and ways to get involved.
- For information about joining local and virtual support groups for transgender and gender non-conforming youth, adults and their families, please see KHJN's guide [here](#) (<https://www.kentuckyhealthjusticenetwork.org/trans-health-resources>).

Legal Questions and Needs

- Consider consulting with an individual lawyer about your specific needs and questions.
- If you believe your rights have been violated and would like to receive help from the ACLU of Kentucky, you may submit a request online or mail a hard copy. Learn more about requesting legal assistance and submit a form [here](#).

Organizations Working to Advocate for Trans Youth in Kentucky:

- ACLU of Kentucky
- Campaign for Southern Equality

- Fairness Campaign
- Kentucky Health Justice Network
- PFLAG Louisville
- Trans Kentucky

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.
- 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](#), **OPEN 24/7, 365 DAYS/YEAR.**
 - Call: (877) 565-8860
 - Peer to Peer Support: Peer2Peer.LIVE on Twitch