
DIGEST

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HB 948 Original

2026 Regular Session

Amedee

Abstract: Authorizes parents to seek alternative treatments for their minor children diagnosed with cancer.

Proposed law provides for definitions.

Proposed law prohibits any government entity, court, healthcare facility, or law enforcement officer from taking adverse action against a parent or guardian solely for declining chemotherapy or other cancer treatment for a minor and pursuing alternative treatment options in non-emergency situations.

Proposed law prohibits adverse action against a parent or guardian for seeking a second medical opinion or declining medical interventions while pursuing other medically supervised treatments in non-emergency situations.

Proposed law provides that such parental decisions shall not constitute medical neglect or abuse under present law.

Proposed law prohibits healthcare providers from reporting a parent or guardian solely for making the protected medical decisions described in proposed law.

Proposed law clarifies that it does not limit necessary medical intervention in a life-threatening emergency but restricts treatment to addressing the emergency condition.

Proposed law clarifies that it does not require parents to refuse treatment, does not prohibit consent to chemotherapy or other cancer treatment, and does not interfere with voluntary medical care chosen by the parent or guardian.

Proposed law authorizes a parent or guardian to bring a civil action for declaratory and injunctive relief, damages, and attorney fees for violations of proposed law and waives governmental immunity to the extent of liability.

(Adds R.S. 40:1079.21-1079.25)