

SENATE BILL 2158

By Hensley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
relative to education.

WHEREAS, children are a gift from God and deserve our protection from the time of  
conception and continuing into their childhood and education; and

WHEREAS, family life education is a fundamentally important aspect of education, and  
the teaching of family life requires a dignity and respect for life; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-1303, is amended by adding  
the following as a new subsection:

(c)

(1) A public school or open-enrollment public charter school shall not  
knowingly enter into a transaction to assist in teaching family life with an  
individual or entity that:

- (A) Performs abortions;
- (B) Induces abortions;
- (C) Provides abortion referrals; or
- (D) Provides funding, advocacy, or other support for abortion.

(2) A violation of this section is a violation of § 49-5-1004 and subjects  
the individual or entity in violation to discipline in accordance with that section.

(3) As used in this subsection (c):

(A) "Abortion":

(i) Means the act of using or prescribing an instrument,  
medicine, drug, device, or other substance or means with the

intent to terminate the clinically diagnosable pregnancy of a woman with knowledge that the termination by those means will with reasonable likelihood cause the death of the unborn child; and

(ii) Does not include an act described in subdivision

(c)(3)(A)(i) if the act is performed with the intent to:

(a) Save the life of the mother;

(b) Save the life or preserve the health of the unborn child;

(c) Remove a dead unborn child caused by spontaneous abortion; or

(d) Remove an ectopic pregnancy;

(B) "Abortion referral" means the act of recommending a pregnant woman to a doctor, clinic, or other person or entity for the purpose of obtaining or learning about obtaining an abortion;

(C) "Affiliate" means an individual or entity that, directly or indirectly, owns, controls, is controlled by, or is under the common control of another person or entity, in whole or in part, or a subsidiary, parent, or sibling entity; and

(D) "Transaction" means a formal or informal agreement, contract, or arrangement of any kind between a public school or open-enrollment public charter school and a private entity, regardless of whether the private entity or the public school or open-enrollment public charter school receives anything of value in return.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect June 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.