

Ohio Supreme Court allows ban on gender-affirming care for minors to resume – for now

By Haley BeMiller
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Ohio can continue to ban gender-affirming care for transgender minors while a legal fight plays out, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled April 29.

The court granted a request from Attorney General Dave Yost to pause an [appellate court decision](#) that determined the ban is unconstitutional. The law, known as House Bill 68, has ping-ponged throughout the court system since the GOP-controlled Legislature enacted it in early 2024.

Two Republican justices – Chief Justice Sharon Kennedy and Justice Pat Fischer – joined Democratic Justice Jennifer Brunner in opposing the decision.

"We look forward to showing once again that the Legislature acted properly in enacting this constitutional law, which protects our children from irreversible medical decisions," Yost spokesperson Bethany McCorkle said.

House Bill 68 prevents doctors from prescribing hormones, puberty blockers or gender reassignment surgery before patients turn 18. The American Civil Liberties Union [filed a lawsuit](#) on behalf of two transgender girls and their families, contending it violates the right of transgender Ohioans to choose their health care.

The law also bans transgender girls and women from playing on female school sports teams. The ACLU isn't suing over that piece of it.

"It is a terrible shame that the Supreme Court of Ohio is permitting the state to evade compliance with the Ohio Constitution," said Freda Levenson, legal director for the ACLU of Ohio. "Our clients have suffered tangible and irreparable harm during the eight months that

HB 68 has been in place, including being denied essential health care in their home state."

A Franklin County judge [ruled in August 2024](#) that the law could take effect, but a panel on the Tenth District Court of Appeals overturned that decision last month. Yost is advocating for the Ohio Supreme Court to take up the case.