

**Subject** Minor consent for nonresidential mental health services

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**Date** February 23, 2021

### Overview

This bill allows a minor who is 16 or older to consent to receiving nonresidential mental health services.

In general, a minor may not receive health services without the consent of a parent or legal guardian. Minnesota Statutes, §§ 144.341 to 144.347, establish exceptions to this general rule and allow minors to consent to specific health services or to consent to health services in specific situations. Section 144.343, subdivision 1, allows a minor to give effective consent for treatment related to alcohol and other drug abuse. Separate statutes in the civil commitment chapter (§§ 253B.03, subd. 6, and 253B.04, subd. 1) allow a minor who is 16 or older to consent to admission to a treatment facility or state-operated program for observation, evaluation, diagnosis, care, and treatment.

### Summary

Section	Description
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| <b>1</b> | <b>Nonresidential mental health services.</b><br>Adds § 144.3435. Allows a minor who is 16 or older to consent to nonresidential mental health services, and the consent of no other person is required. Defines nonresidential mental health services as outpatient services provided to a minor not residing in a hospital, inpatient unit, or licensed residential treatment facility or program. (Outpatient services are defined as mental health services, excluding day treatment and community support services programs, provided to children with emotional disturbance who live outside a hospital, and include clinical activities like individual, group, and family therapy; individual treatment planning; diagnostic assessments; medication management; and psychological testing.) |
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