

**HOMELESS YOUTH PROTECTION AMENDMENTS**

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Elizabeth Weight**

Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies provisions related to shelter, care, and services for homeless youth.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

▶ clarifies that a person who provides shelter, care, or services to certain homeless youth may refer the homeless youth to temporary or permanent housing; and

▶ makes technical changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**62A-4a-502**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 242

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **62A-4a-502** is amended to read:

**62A-4a-502. Consent to shelter, care, or services by a homeless youth.**

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Care" means providing:



- 28 (i) assistance to obtain food, clothing, hygiene products, or other basic necessities;
- 29 (ii) access to a bed, showering facility, or transportation; or
- 30 (iii) assistance with school enrollment or attendance.

31 (b) "Homeless youth" means the same as that term is defined in Section 62A-4a-501.

32 (c) "Licensed services" means a service provided by a temporary homeless youth  
33 shelter, a youth services center, or other facility that is licensed to provide the service to a  
34 homeless youth.

35 (d) "Service" means:

- 36 (i) youth services, as defined in Section 62A-7-101;
- 37 (ii) child welfare or juvenile court case management or advocacy;
- 38 (iii) aftercare services, as defined in 45 C.F.R. 1351.1; or
- 39 (iv) independent living skills training.

40 (e) "Temporary homeless youth shelter" means the same as that term is defined in  
41 Section 62A-4a-501.

42 (f) "Youth services center" means the same as that term is defined in Section  
43 62A-4a-501.

44 (2) A homeless youth may consent to temporary shelter, care, or licensed services if the  
45 homeless youth:

- 46 (a) is at least 15 years old; and
- 47 (b) manages the homeless youth's own financial affairs, regardless of the source of  
48 income.

49 (3) In determining consent under Subsection (2), a person may rely on the homeless  
50 youth's verbal or written statement describing the homeless youth's ability to consent to  
51 temporary shelter, care, or licensed services.

52 (4) A person who provides shelter, care, or licensed services to a homeless youth who  
53 consents to the shelter, care, or licensed services under Subsection (2):

54 (a) shall report to the division as required under Section 62A-4a-403 and Subsection  
55 62A-4a-501(4); and

56 (b) may provide the homeless youth a referral to [safe] temporary or permanent  
57 housing, employment [~~services~~] resources, medical or dental [~~care~~] providers, or counseling.