

1 **HOMELESS YOUTH PROTECTION AMENDMENTS**

2 2021 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Elizabeth Weight**

5 Senate Sponsor: Luz Escamilla

6 Cosponsor:

7 Steve Waldrip

8

9 **LONG TITLE**

10 **General Description:**

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

12 **Highlighted Provisions:**

13 This bill:

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

16 ▶ makes technical changes.

17 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

18 None

19 **Other Special Clauses:**

20 None

21 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

22 AMENDS:

23 **62A-4a-502**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 242

24

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

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

27 **62A-4a-502. Consent to shelter, care, or services by a homeless youth.**

28 (1) As used in this section:

- 29 (a) "Care" means providing:
- 30 (i) assistance to obtain food, clothing, hygiene products, or other basic necessities;
- 31 (ii) access to a bed, showering facility, or transportation; or
- 32 (iii) assistance with school enrollment or attendance.
- 33 (b) "Homeless youth" means the same as that term is defined in Section [62A-4a-501](#).
- 34 (c) "Licensed services" means a service provided by a temporary homeless youth
- 35 shelter, a youth services center, or other facility that is licensed to provide the service to a
- 36 homeless youth.
- 37 (d) "Service" means:
- 38 (i) youth services, as defined in Section [62A-7-101](#);
- 39 (ii) child welfare or juvenile court case management or advocacy;
- 40 (iii) aftercare services, as defined in 45 C.F.R. 1351.1; or
- 41 (iv) independent living skills training.
- 42 (e) "Temporary homeless youth shelter" means the same as that term is defined in
- 43 Section [62A-4a-501](#).
- 44 (f) "Youth services center" means the same as that term is defined in Section
- 45 [62A-4a-501](#).
- 46 (2) A homeless youth may consent to temporary shelter, care, or licensed services if the
- 47 homeless youth:
- 48 (a) is at least 15 years old; and
- 49 (b) manages the homeless youth's own financial affairs, regardless of the source of
- 50 income.
- 51 (3) In determining consent under Subsection (2), a person may rely on the homeless
- 52 youth's verbal or written statement describing the homeless youth's ability to consent to
- 53 temporary shelter, care, or licensed services.
- 54 (4) A person who provides shelter, care, or licensed services to a homeless youth who
- 55 consents to the shelter, care, or licensed services under Subsection (2):
- 56 (a) shall report to the division as required under Section [62A-4a-403](#) and Subsection

57 62A-4a-501(4); and

58 (b) may provide the homeless youth a referral to [~~safe~~] temporary or permanent

59 housing, employment [~~services~~] resources, medical or dental [~~care~~] providers, or counseling.