

The *Alabama Vulnerable Child and Compassion Case*

Case Name: *Boe v. Marshall*

Case Action: At the Federal District Court of the Middle District of Alabama

Significance: Whether Alabama can protect minors from harmful medical procedures

Hashtag: #DoNoHarm 



Background: In April 2022, Alabama passed a law (Senate Bill 184) prohibiting the administration of puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and surgeries on minors who experience discomfort with their biological sex. These experimental medical interventions can have harmful, lifelong, and irreversible consequences. In response to the law, a handful of doctors and parents—represented by politicized interest groups—immediately sued, claiming that Alabama’s law protecting minors violates the U.S. Constitution. The Biden Administration also intervened to challenge Alabama’s law. Alliance Defending Freedom joined with the Alabama Attorney General’s Office to represent the State of Alabama in defending its law to protect children from harmful, irreversible, and unnecessary medical procedures.

Key Points

- The medical field exists to promote health and human flourishing, and Alabama affirms this by passing laws prohibiting procedures that will harm children.
- Providing children with unnecessary cross sex hormones and harmful surgeries that permanently change their bodies can destroy their health, turn children into life-long patients, and irreparably deprive them from becoming parents later in their lives.
- Alabama is implementing policies that protect basic freedoms, promote human flourishing, and prioritize children’s well-being.

Key Facts

- Alabama enacted the Vulnerable Child Compassion and Protection Act in April 2022 to eliminate the use of radical hormonal and surgical procedures on minors who are experiencing discomfort with their biological sex.
- Respected voices internationally recognize that injecting cross-sex hormones or disrupting natural puberty in a child’s body is strictly experimental, with no proven benefit.
- Children cannot consent to drugs and surgeries that catastrophically and permanently harm their bodies.

The Bottom Line: No one has a right to harm children. Alabama’s law protects minors from harmful procedures being pushed by politicized medical associations and interest groups.