A bill to be entitled

An act relating to consent for pelvic examinations; amending s. 456.51, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "pelvic examination"; revising the circumstances under which a pelvic examination may be performed without written consent; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 456.51, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

456.51 Consent for pelvic examinations.—

(1) As used in this section, the term "pelvic examination" means a manual ~~the series of tasks that comprise an~~ examination of the ~~vagina, cervix, uterus, fallopian tubes, ovaries, rectum, or external pelvic tissue or~~ organs of the female reproductive system ~~using any combination of modalities, which may include, but need not be limited to, the health care provider's gloved hand or instrumentation~~.

(2) A health care practitioner, a medical student, or any other student receiving training as a health care practitioner may not perform a pelvic examination on a patient without the written consent of the patient or the patient's legal representative executed specific to, and expressly identifying,

the pelvic examination, unless:

(a) A court orders performance of the pelvic examination for the collection of evidence; or

(b) The pelvic examination is ~~immediately~~ necessary for the provision of emergency services and care, as defined in section 395.002(9), or the patient has an emergency medical condition, as defined in section 395.002(8) ~~to avert a serious risk of imminent substantial and irreversible physical impairment of a major bodily function of the patient~~.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.