

5123.62 Rights of persons with a developmental disability.

The rights of persons with mental retardation or a developmental disability include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (A) The right to be treated at all times with courtesy and respect and with full recognition of their dignity and individuality;
- (B) The right to an appropriate, safe, and sanitary living environment that complies with local, state, and federal standards and recognizes the persons' need for privacy and independence;
- (C) The right to food adequate to meet accepted standards of nutrition;
- (D) The right to practice the religion of their choice or to abstain from the practice of religion;
- (E) The right of timely access to appropriate medical or dental treatment;
- (F) The right of access to necessary ancillary services, including, but not limited to, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, and behavior modification and other psychological services;
- (G) The right to receive appropriate care and treatment in the least intrusive manner;
- (H) The right to privacy, including both periods of privacy and places of privacy;
- (I) The right to communicate freely with persons of their choice in any reasonable manner they choose;
- (J) The right to ownership and use of personal possessions so as to maintain individuality and personal dignity;
- (K) The right to social interaction with members of either sex;
- (L) The right of access to opportunities that enable individuals to develop their full human potential;
- (M) The right to pursue vocational opportunities that will promote and enhance economic independence;
- (N) The right to be treated equally as citizens under the law;
- (O) The right to be free from emotional, psychological, and physical abuse;
- (P) The right to participate in appropriate programs of education, training, social development, and habilitation and in programs of reasonable recreation;
- (Q) The right to participate in decisions that affect their lives;
- (R) The right to select a parent or advocate to act on their behalf;
- (S) The right to manage their personal financial affairs, based on individual ability to do so;
- (T) The right to confidential treatment of all information in their personal and medical records, except to the extent that disclosure or release of records is permitted under sections [5123.89](#) and [5126.044](#) of the Revised Code;
- (U) The right to voice grievances and recommend changes in policies and services without restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal;
- (V) The right to be free from unnecessary chemical or physical restraints;
- (W) The right to participate in the political process;
- (X) The right to refuse to participate in medical, psychological, or other research or experiments.

Effective Date: 09-22-2000