The history of the parental consent and judicial bypass laws in Massachusetts.

- **1973**: Massachusetts passes a law requiring young people under the age of 18 to obtain consent from both parents in order to access abortion.
- **1974**: The Supreme Court decides *Roe v. Wade*.
- **1979**: The law is challenged and eventually struck down by the Supreme Court in *Bellotti v. Baird*.
- **1981**: The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court rules that a young person needs only to obtain consent from one parent or judge.
- **2019**: A *2019 study of over 2,000 patients* found that Massachusetts’ restrictions on a young person’s access to safe, legal abortion has created stark disparities in access and significantly delayed care.

Judicial bypass requires a young person to:
- Find a lawyer to represent them in court
- Take 2 days off from school
- Travel to and from court
- Obtain a court order, deeming them mature enough to not become a parent

After Massachusetts established the judicial bypass system in 1981, an analysis found that the proportion of minors seeking out-of-state abortion care rose by **300%**.

**Sources.**