

AN ORDINANCE

NO. _____

An ordinance amending Article XIV of Chapter 13 of the Columbus Code to revise and modernize the Article; to adopt current state rules and regulations; to provide for a penalty for violations; and for other purposes.

THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1.

Article XIV of Chapter 13 of the Columbus Code is amended by striking that Article in its entirety and inserting a new Article XIV to read as follows:

“ARTICE XIV. - BODY ART

Sec. 13-541.- State rules and regulations for body art adopted by reference.

The Rules and Regulations of the State of Georgia for Body Art, at Sec. 511-3-8 et seq. In the Rules and Regulations of the State of Georgia as compiled by the Secretary of State, are hereby adopted and incorporated herein by reference. The Columbus (Muscogee County) Department of Public Health and shall ensure that a current copy of said rules and regulations will be kept on file with the Clerk of Council and the Director of the Department of Inspections and Code.

Sec. 13-542. - Violations.

Any person or corporation that enters into the business of performing body art as defined in the Rules and Regulations of the State of Georgia for Body Art shall be in violation of this Article if they

- 1) Cannot show proof of a State permit to perform such services; or
- 2) Do not hold a business license issued by or acceptable to the Revenue Division of the Finance Department of Columbus, Georgia; or
- 3) Are cited by the Columbus (Muscogee County) Department of Public of Health for violations of the Rules and Regulation of the State of Georgia for Body Art.

Sec. 13-543. – Enforcement.

Penalty. Any person who violates any provision of this Article shall be punished pursuant to [Section 1-8](#) of the Columbus Code. Citations for such violations shall be issued by the Inspection Division of the Department of Inspections and Code and heard in the environmental court division of recorder’s court.”

SECTION 2.

Section 14-60.1 of the Columbus Code is repealed and replaced with a new Section 14-60.1 to read as follows:

“Sec. 14-60.1. – Body Art — Prohibited on persons under 18 except under certain conditions.

(a) Tattooing.

It shall be unlawful for any person to tattoo the body of any person under the age of 18, except that a physician or osteopath licensed under Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Georgia Code, or a technician acting under the direct supervision of such licensed physician or osteopath, and in compliance with Chapter 9 of Title 31 of the Georgia Code shall be authorized to mark or color the skin of any person under the age of 18 by pricking in coloring matter or by producing scars for medical or cosmetic purposes.

(b) Piercing-Prohibited on persons under 18 without consent of custodial parent or guardian.

It shall be unlawful for any person to pierce the body, with the exception of the ear lobes, of any person under the age of 18 for the purpose of allowing the insertion of earrings, jewelry, or similar objects into the body, unless the prior written consent of a custodial parent or guardian is obtained; provided however, that the prohibition contained in this subsection shall not apply if:

1. Such person has been furnished with proper identification showing that the individual is 18 years of age or older; and
2. The person reasonably believes such minor to be 18 years of age or older.”

SECTION 3.

All ordinances in conflict with this ordinance shall be repealed.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the 28th day of July 2026; introduced a second time at a regular meeting of said Council held on the 11th day of August 2026 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Barnes	voting _____
Councilor Chambers	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Cook	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

Lindsey G Mclemore
Clerk of Council

B. H. “Skip” Henderson, III
Mayor