

Submitter: Joe Smith

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2458

I strongly oppose HB 2458. It goes against the 2014 ACA Code of Ethics

A.4.a. Avoiding Harm

Counselors act to avoid harming their clients, trainees, and research participants and to minimize or to remedy unavoidable or unanticipated harm.

A.4.b. Personal Values Counselors are aware of—and avoid imposing—their own values, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors. Counselors respect the diversity of clients, trainees, and research participants and seek training in areas in which they are at risk of imposing their values onto clients, especially when the counselor's values are inconsistent with the client's goals or are discriminatory in nature.

Interesting that the State wants to violate the Ethics of all counselors by "imposing [the State's] own values" and forcing them to Stop talking to their adult clients about whatever their adult clients came to see them for if it goes against what the State has sanctioned as okay conversation. Talk about imposing the State's values, attitudes, beliefs and behaviors on poor clients who are severely depressed or anxious and just want to explore whatever they feel like exploring.

Don't limit what an adult can and cannot discuss with their expensive counselor. This is communism!! By the way, this bill will also produce irreparable damage to a client who needs to talk about issues that are life-threatening to them. Why, the therapist will have to tell the client to "Go away. The State forbids me to talk to you about THAT issue." That is sadistic!