

Submitter: Mari Dayley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2458

I am Mari Dayley, a graduate student in Bushnell University's CMHC program. I am testifying in favor of the HB 2458. Humans have a basic need for authenticity, acceptance, and safety. Conversion therapy goes against each of those, not only not fulfilling the need, but directly denying the need. Humans also have the right to safety and to the pursuit of happiness. Conversion therapy directly negates their right to safety. Not only does it cause an emotionally unsafe environment for the individual who is asked to go against their authenticity, it also teaches the community that they are allowed to deny people their right to authenticity, leading to disdain, then prejudice, then violence. The existence of conversion therapy puts some people's authenticity on a pedestal above others. Conversion therapy should be banned across the entire United States to all ages and populations.

-Mari Dayley