

Submitter: LP Palazzolo

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2458

Conversion therapy is defined by the Human Rights Organization as "a range of dangerous practices and discredited practices that falsely claim to change a person's sexual orientation or gender identity or expression". Research shows that this practice leads to significantly damaging mental health outcomes, including anxiety, depression, PTSD, and often attempted or completed suicides. The practice is considered unethical by trusted health organizations including the APA and ACA. As a counseling psychologist in training, these organizations' stances, along with the research showing the practice of so-called conversion therapy as harmful, mean that I vehemently support its ban.