

Submitter: Melissa Hartley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2458

As a Licensed Professional Counselor, I support HB2458. I work primarily with the LGBTQ2IA+ population and I can attest to the harmful nature of not only conversion “therapy” but that of living in a state where it is allowed to harm some of our most marginalized citizens. I urge Oregon legislators to recognize the harmfulness of NOT banning this unethical and morally abhorrent practice and to take immediate action to correct this long-standing error.

I have lived in Oregon all my life and have seen Oregon residents be kind, generous and altruistic in their actions and advocacy. My hope is that Oregon will not miss this opportunity to continue cultivating a culture of care and protection for its residents.

We must ban conversion “therapy” now.

Sincerely,

Melissa Hartley LPC