

As a member of the LGTBQIA2+ community and public educator, I am in full support of HB2458.

It has been shown time and time again that Conversion Therapy is an unethical practice, and does an immense deal of harm to one's psyche instead of what it is believed to be achieved via the practice. The results of Conversion Therapy leads to depression, other mental illness issues, and/or irreversibly - death by suicide, stemming from the force and pressure of having to hide who they truly are.

Oregon can become a model of caring and affirming action by becoming the first state in the United States to completely ban Conversion Therapy. I hope that the state that I, my family, and my students can live in a state where it prioritizes the safety, mental health, and lives of LGTBQIA2+ people.