

Submitter: Rhea Wolf

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2458

I am writing to offer support for this bill and to urge the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care to forward this bill to a vote and pass this legislation. It is bizarre that conversion therapy is still allowed anywhere, as evidence shows how traumatizing this practice is as well as how ineffective. Being queer or trans is not a mental health issue, is not a moral failing, and is not something that needs treatment. Banning this harmful, unnecessary, and egregious practice continues the work of those incredible activists in the early 70s who fought for "homosexuality" to be removed from the DSM. Homophobia and transphobia have no place in Oregon. I would like this legislation to go further and ban this practice entirely, but prohibiting mental health professionals from practicing it is a good place to start. Let's continue to work toward a more just, humane, and inclusive world by making sure no one is subjected to this dangerous practice. Thank you for your time and consideration.