

My major complaint about this bill is that it hurts many of the people the bill is designed to protect.

For example, I have a client that sought me out specifically because the person was traumatized by a medical event in the past that has left the client extremely afraid when thinking about going to a General Practitioner, an emergency room, or calling a hotline, let alone seeing a mental health specialist. I am working diligently to help my client get to the point where they WILL see a professional. My client would NOT go to any medical or mental health professional otherwise.

For similar people with mental health issues and such fears or phobias, I serve as their only safe gateway back into the medical and mental health system. While I won't work on the client's trauma directly, I can work on their behavior responses to help the person feel calm and at peace when thinking about going to a professional.

If others like myself are regulated out of business, then a significant number of such people will disappear, not be helped, and still won't move toward being helped by your medical and psychiatric specialists.

Speaking for many of my colleagues, we do NOT practice psychiatry or medicine and are restricted from doing so by Codes of Ethics through memberships with professional organizations; i.e., Hypnotherapists Union- Local 472. We will not practice hypnotherapy within a mental health or medical context unless it's under the direct referral from a medical or mental health professional. Our focus is on helping clients with vocational and avocational needs. We are led by compassion at a grass-roots level serving unhelped clients and we have extensive training, education and continuing education, while holding diplomas in hypnotherapy through a nationally accredited school of hypnotherapy, We are professionals who augment the medical and mental health professionals.

In summary, the passage of such a bill hurts many of the people the bill is designed to help, will cause certain people to not get any help at all, and will add an additional layer of bureaucracy to an industry that is self-monitored through associations and organizations that already exist.

Sincerely,

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