

Submitter: Nancy Cowen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2458

"Conversion therapy" is really talk therapy, exploratory therapy. Passing this bill would deny trans people access to mental healthcare, which is against their human rights. Closing down the therapist ability to do the work of therapy, which is to explore all aspects of a person's personality, history, current life circumstance and how it relates to their current distress. Without this thorough work how can it be known what is the right course of treatment.

If a person is in such distress that they are considering irreversible medical procedures, they need to have full access to mental health exploratory therapy. Without this they could be missing co-morbidities such as sexual trauma, Autism, depression and anxiety. Without resolving these issues they could be making a permanent decision that may not be right for them.

I oppose the HB2458 Bill