

Submitter: Michele Soleimani

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2458

I am a proud parent of a trans child; I am also a psychotherapist and have seen first hand the trauma that many of my clients have suffered of being forced into conversion therapy to rid them of being gay. It didn't work on on any of them thankfully but the emotional scars still remain. My daughter and I are proud to live in a state where she was able to receive hormone blockers; she has identified as being female since the age of six and I can't be more grateful to know she lives in a home where she is accepted. She knows she can change her mind at any time and appreciates that she has the freedom to do this. There is a reason why conversion therapy is banned in several countries worldwide---because it is cruel, outdated, and traumatic to those who are on the LGBTQIA+ spectrum. Conversion therapy doesn't work. Let's move Oregon into the 21st century and stop trying to pretend we can rid others of being gay.