

Submitter: Sonja Maglothin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2458

This bill, which conflates sexual orientation with gender identity, would make it nearly impossible for therapists to question patients' complex reasons for wanting to pursue "transition." A therapist's job is not to "affirm" a patient's identity, but to assist the patient in exploring it. Most children experiencing gender dysphoria desist by the end of puberty. Not being able to explore their dysphoria properly will confuse many of these children, with dangerous, lifelong consequences.

Protect therapists' freedom to do what it is they do best: ask questions, explore root causes, get to know the multiple interconnected systemic influences in our patients' lives, & help people make healthy choices.