

Submitter: Char Cezanne

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2458

I believe this bill would protect vulnerable members of the LGBTQ+ community and the integrity of the counseling profession. As counselors we have a responsibility to practice in a way that will not cause harm, and conversion therapy has been shown to be profoundly harmful. As helping professionals, we cannot give legitimacy to the idea that those of us in the LGBTQ community can be “corrected” into being straight or cisgender. Allowing professionals licensed by the state to practice in this manner gives weight to the idea that our identities are pathological. It’s regressive, and I believe that it has no place in ethical mental health care.