

Submitter: David Wall
On Behalf Of: Mr Oregon OPPOSES SB 1547
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1547

I OPPOSE [SB 1547].

[SB 1547] addresses the need for an additional class of 'Behavioral Services' governed by the 'Oregon Board of Psychology.'

[SB 1547] addresses the shortage of 'Licensed Behavioral Practitioners' and attempts to solve the shortage by what can be ascribe to as a 'Dumbing Down' of educational requirements to alleviate the shortage.

[SB 1547] fails miserably in not addressing the requirements for expansion of the 'Oregon Board of Psychologies' need for the administrative and legal expansion functions and budget allocations to carry out the expanded duties.

[SB 1547] fails miserably in not providing the barebones of financial liabilities the new and expanded 'Oregon Board of Psychology' will cost the taxpayers.

From the TEXT of [SB 1547],

"...SECTION 33. ORS 675.850 is amended to read: 675.850.

(1) A mental health care or social health professional may not practice conversion therapy if the recipient of the conversion therapy is under 18 years of age.

(2) As used in this section:

(a)(A) "Conversion therapy" means providing professional services for the purpose of attempting to change a person's sexual orientation or gender identity, including attempting to change behaviors or expressions of self or to reduce sexual or romantic attractions or feelings toward individuals of the same gender...

... (B) "Conversion therapy" does not mean:...

... (ii) Counseling that provides a client with acceptance, support and understanding, or counseling that facilitates a client's coping, social support and identity exploration or development, including counseling in the form of sexual orientation-neutral or gender identity-neutral interventions provided for the development, including counseling in the form of sexual orientation-neutral or gender identity-neutral interventions provided for the purpose of preventing or addressing unlawful conduct or unsafe sexual practices, as long as the counseling is not provided for the purpose of attempting to change the client's sexual orientation or gender identity..."

***The clause [contained in SECTION 33 supra], "... of preventing or addressing unlawful conduct or unsafe sexual practices..." serves to open wide the barn door of interpretation.

***There is nothing mentioned to providing services for those over the age of eighteen (18).

[SB 1547] is poorly constructed and is not quantifiably funded therefore it is to be rejected and denied.

David S. Wall

Mr. Oregon Concurr and says, "Rejected and denied with prejudice is a suitable outcome of [SB 1547]."