



SR0010

LRB104 06047 ECR 16080 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Conversion therapy, also known as reparative
3 therapy, is a practice that falsely claims to change an
4 individual's sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender
5 expression through psychological or physical intervention; and

6 WHEREAS, Conversion therapy has been discredited by every
7 major medical and mental health organization, including the
8 American Psychiatric Association, the American Psychological
9 Association, and the American Medical Association; and

10 WHEREAS, Conversion therapy has been linked to long-term
11 mental health issues, including depression, anxiety, and
12 suicidal ideation, and these are all issues that
13 disproportionately affect the LGBTQ+ community; and

14 WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly passed the Youth
15 Mental Health Protection Act in 2015 to prohibit licensed
16 professionals from engaging in conversion therapy with minors
17 and to safeguard Illinois youth from practices that have been
18 scientifically proven to cause emotional and psychological
19 harm, including increased risks of depression, anxiety,
20 self-harm, and suicide among LGBTQ+ individuals; and

21 WHEREAS, The year 2025 marks the 10-year anniversary of

1 this landmark piece of legislation that demonstrates Illinois'
2 leadership in the advancement of LGBTQ+ rights; and

3 WHEREAS, Despite significant progress, the practice of
4 conversion therapy still exists throughout Illinois and
5 continues to falsely advertise itself as a legitimate
6 therapeutic intervention, often targeting vulnerable LGBTQ+
7 adults; and

8 WHEREAS, Although Illinois recognizes the harms caused by
9 conversion therapy and the fact that the practice is
10 illegitimate, there is no statewide ban on the practice
11 applying to adults; and

12 WHEREAS, The New Jersey Superior Court, in a landmark
13 ruling in Ferguson v. JONAH, determined that the provisions of
14 conversion therapy meet all of the standard elements for a
15 consumer fraud claim; and

16 WHEREAS, Being gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer,
17 or otherwise belonging to a marginalized community based on
18 sexual orientation or gender identity is not a mental defect
19 or a condition that can or should be cured; and

20 WHEREAS, It is essential to protect adults, as well as
21 minors, from this fraudulent and harmful practice in order to

1 safeguard the health and well-being of all Illinois residents,
2 particularly those within the LGBTQ+ community; and

3 WHEREAS, It is imperative for the Illinois General
4 Assembly, as a guardian of public health and safety, to take a
5 firm stance against conversion therapy to ensure that Illinois
6 remains a safe and supportive environment for all residents,
7 particularly LGBTQ+ individuals; allowing conversion therapy
8 to persist unchecked undermines the integrity of licensed
9 healthcare professionals and poses a public health risk;
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we condemn the
13 practice of conversion therapy on any population as unethical
14 and fraudulent, and we assert that no licensed professional
15 operating in the State of Illinois should engage in this
16 practice, whether with minors or adults, as it violates the
17 ethical standards of professional behavioral healthcare; and
18 be it further

19 RESOLVED, That we condemn conversion therapy as described
20 herein, regardless of the target population or how the service
21 is marketed or titled; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That we acknowledge that conversion therapy is

1 not a legitimate form of therapy but is a dangerous and
2 discredited practice that has no place in a professional
3 setting, and that any professional engaging in such practices
4 is in violation of the ethical guidelines governing their
5 licensure; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That we encourage the Illinois Department of
7 Public Health to launch a statewide public awareness campaign
8 to educate communities about the harms of conversion therapy
9 and its fraudulent nature, to collaborate with the Department
10 of Financial and Professional Regulation to investigate and
11 hold accountable practitioners offering conversion therapy
12 under false pretenses, to develop guidelines for healthcare
13 professionals to recognize, report, and prevent practices
14 associated with conversion therapy, and to support outreach
15 initiatives to connect survivors of conversion therapy with
16 affirming mental health resources; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
18 delivered to Governor JB Pritzker, the Illinois Department of
19 Financial and Professional Regulation, the Illinois Department
20 of Public Health, the Illinois Department of Human Services,
21 and the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services.