

Youth Mental Health Protection Act

HB 2817 & HB 4160

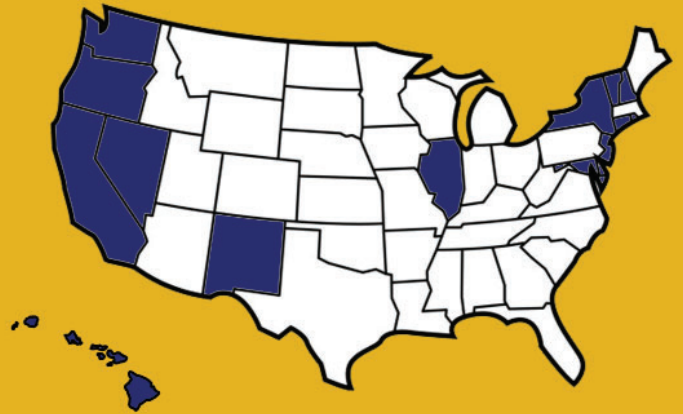
What the bill does: Bans licensed medical providers from engaging in the dangerous and discredited practice of conversion therapy (also known as reparative therapy or ex-gay therapy) on minors.

1. Conversion therapy, also known as reparative therapy or ex-gay therapy, is a discredited and dangerous practice whereby a counselor attempts to change a person's sexual orientation or gender identity.
2. Every mainstream medical association in America denounces it as ineffective and potentially harmful. It is associated with higher rates of depression, self-harm, and even suicide.
3. Counselors don't hang a sign outside of their clinic advertising conversion therapy. It is often quietly forced on minors with the consent of their parents.
4. The Youth Mental Health Protection Act would enable the state to revoke the license of any medical practitioner that subjects a child to conversion therapy. The bill does NOT apply to clergy.
5. The U.S. Supreme Court upheld California's ban on this harmful practice, and courts in New Jersey have ruled this practice to be a form of fraud.

FAIRNESS
WEST VIRGINIA

15

States and Washington D.C. ban conversion therapy.



700,000

Children are estimated to have been victims of conversion therapy

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS SUPPORT THIS BAN

- WV State Medical Association
- WV Psychological Association
- WV Psychiatric Association
- WV Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
- WV Chapter of the American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists
- WV School Psychologists' Association
- WV Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives