

1 AN ACT relating to conversion therapy.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 216 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 **(1) As used in this section:**

6 **(a) "Cabinet" means the Cabinet for Health and Family Services;**

7 **(b) 1. "Conversion therapy" means any practice, treatment, or intervention**
8 **that seeks or purports to change an individual's sexual orientation or**
9 **gender identity, including efforts to change behaviors or gender**
10 **expression or to eliminate or reduce sexual or romantic attractions or**
11 **feelings towards individuals of the same gender.**

12 **2. "Conversion therapy" does not include any practice, treatment, or**
13 **intervention that:**

14 **a. Provides acceptance, support, or understanding to an individual,**
15 **or facilitates an individual's coping, social support, and identity**
16 **exploration and development, if the practice, treatment, or**
17 **intervention does not seek to change an individual's sexual**
18 **orientation or gender identity;**

19 **b. Is neutral with regard to sexual orientation or gender identity;**

20 **c. Seeks to prevent or address unlawful conduct or unsafe**
21 **practices; or**

22 **d. Assists an individual who is seeking to undergo a gender**
23 **transition or is in the process of undergoing a gender transition;**
24 **and**

25 **(c) "Minor" means an individual under the age of eighteen (18).**

26 **(2) The cabinet shall take actions necessary to prohibit the direct or indirect use of**
27 **state and federal funds for the practice of conversion therapy on minors,**

1 referring a minor for conversion therapy, or extending health benefits coverage
2 for conversion therapy with a minor. This prohibition includes but is not limited
3 to funding relating to the Kentucky Medical Assistance Program, Medicaid, the
4 Kentucky Children's Health Insurance Program, child welfare services, and
5 juvenile justice programs.

6 (3) Any state agency that discovers or receives a report that a provider who is
7 certified or licensed to practice in the Commonwealth engages in conversion
8 therapy efforts with a minor or performs counseling on conversion therapy as
9 part of his or her training for any profession licensed under a professional
10 certification or licensing board within the Commonwealth shall report that
11 provider to the appropriate professional certification or licensing board for
12 potential disciplinary action.

13 (4) The cabinet shall update any relevant policies, procedures, standards, manuals,
14 treatment guidance, and other materials related to child health care, child
15 welfare, and juvenile justice services to reflect the prohibition established in
16 subsection (2) of this section and to convey, where appropriate, the risks
17 associated with the practice of conversion therapy on minors.

18 (5) All state departments and agencies that regulate, provide, procure, or pay for
19 medical or mental health services on behalf of Kentucky residents shall explore
20 actions they may lawfully take to protect minors from the practice of conversion
21 therapy.

22 (6) All professional certification or licensing boards, departments, and agencies in
23 the Commonwealth may explore and implement strategies to prohibit the practice
24 of conversion therapy on minors and the referral of minors for conversion
25 therapy including but not limited to making engaging in conversion therapy on
26 minors or referring minors for conversion therapy unprofessional conduct
27 subject to disciplinary action.