

HB 1332 seeks to codify conversion therapy as legal and ethical, and in so doing, to override YEAR AND YEARS of science and studies which prove that trying to change or repair someones sexual identity does far, far more harm than good. The state has NO RIGHT to insert itself into the healthcare of these individuals and declare something KNOWN to cause harm and hurt to LGBTQIA+ individuals as ETHICAL behavior in a field that should, by all rights, be prioritizing the welfare of children above all else!

This is an OUTRAGEOUS overreach by the state legislature and government. How DARE the state try to overrule the board and body which regulates social workers and so flagrantly dismiss all evidence to the contrary in pursuit of political gain and bigoted grandstanding.

The legislature cannot simply WILL the science into agreeing with them, nor should it be permitted to make laws which fly in the face of reality as determined by the experts of their respective fields.

North Dakota already has a hard enough time retaining its talent and workforce, and a law like this would drive out social workers and therapists who could not in good conscience continue to serve in a state which seeks to codify the denial of both science and reason. Worse, explicitly protecting the right of parents to impose conversion therapy on their children will GREATLY increase the risk of suicide among an already struggling and suffering demographic.

This bill seeks to use social workers to perpetuate abuse and continued endangerment of children WITH THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND BACKING of the state, and by no means should the committee even consider supporting it. SAVE A CHILDS LIFE, AND DO NOT PASS HB 1332.