

Dear Chair Weisz and members of the House Human Services Committee,

My testimony is in opposition to House Bill 1332. I ask that you give this bill a Do Not Pass. The reason for this is that it conflicts with best practices.

This bill goes against everything social workers stand for by allowing for known harmful practices to be considered ethical. It is well-documented that conversion therapy is incredibly harmful, especially in regards to the betrayal of trust when a minor is enrolled. These forms of “therapy” include verbal, mental, and physical abuse with the goal of forcing the person to repress certain aspects of themselves that naturally occur.

Guardians who enroll a minor in these sorts of practices should be reported to Child Protective Services, not encouraged by being told they are acting in an ethical manner. This bill is not acceptable and needs to be struck down immediately.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our state

Best regards,
-Jamie Teeple