

Testimony in opposition of HB 1030

Becky Craig, LMSW

Chair Ruby and Members of the House Human Services Committee:

I am a licensed Masters level social worker currently working in North Dakota schools and communities to support students and their families succeed. I am an advocate for all students & believe that they deserve the right to be themselves.

Allowing conversion therapies in social work practice is not only unethical but harmful to LGBT children in North Dakota.

Conversion therapy is ineffective and/or harmful, finding links to depression, suicidality, anxiety, social isolation and decreased quality of life.

Conversion therapy practice violates the Social Worker Code of Ethics. As a Social Worker, I will never allow conversion therapy in my social work practice as it violates the code of ethics and basic human rights.

Please vote a do not pass on HB 1030 and keep this unethical therapy out of social work practice.

<https://www.socialworkers.org/Practice/LGBTQIA/Sexual-Orientation-and-Gender-Diversity>

<https://whatweknow.inequality.cornell.edu/topics/lgbt-equality/what-does-the-scholarly-research-say-about-whether-conversion-therapy-can-alter-sexual-orientation-without-causing-harm/>