

Amendment to HB 587-FN

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

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3 1 New Chapter; Prohibiting Conversion Therapy on Minors. Amend RSA by inserting after  
4 chapter 332-K the following new chapter:

5 CHAPTER 332-L

6 PROHIBITING CONVERSION THERAPY ON MINORS

7 332-L:1 Definition. In this chapter, "conversion therapy" means practices or treatments which  
8 impose a viewpoint that seeks to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity,  
9 including efforts to change behaviors or gender expressions or to eliminate or reduce sexual or  
10 romantic attractions or feelings toward individuals of the same gender. Conversion therapy shall  
11 not include talk therapy or religious counseling that provides acceptance, support, and  
12 understanding to that individual. Nor does it prohibit facilitating an individual's coping, social  
13 support systems, and identity exploration and development, including sexual-orientation-neutral  
14 interventions to prevent or address unlawful conduct or unsafe sexual practices, if such counseling  
15 does not seek to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity against an individual's  
16 will.

17 332-L:2 Prohibition; Violations, and Enforcement.

18 I. A person who is licensed to provide professional counseling under RSA 326-B, RSA 328-D,  
19 RSA 329, RSA 329-B, RSA 330-A:16, RSA 330-A:18, RSA 330-A:19, RSA 330-A:20, RSA 330-A:21, or  
20 RSA 330-C, including, but not limited to, a nurse, physician assistant, physician, psychologist,  
21 clinical social worker, clinical mental health counselor, marriage and family therapist, or licensed  
22 alcohol and drug counselor, or a person who performs counseling as part of the person's professional  
23 training for any of these professions, shall not engage in conversion therapy with a person under 18  
24 years of age.

25 II. Any licensed professional, as listed in paragraph I, who proposes to engage or engages in  
26 conversion therapy on a patient under 18 years of age shall be considered to have engaged in  
27 unprofessional conduct and shall be subject to such discipline as the relevant licensing authority  
28 deems appropriate.

29 332-L:3 Non-Infringement. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to infringe on any  
30 constitutional right, including the free exercise of religion.

31 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2019.