

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. _____

Expressing the sense of the Senate that conversion therapy, including efforts by mental health practitioners to change the sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression of an individual, is dangerous and harmful and should be prohibited from being practiced on minors.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BOOKER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that conversion therapy, including efforts by mental health practitioners to change the sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression of an individual, is dangerous and harmful and should be prohibited from being practiced on minors.

Whereas being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or gender nonconforming is not a disorder, disease, illness, deficiency, or shortcoming;

Whereas the development of all children and adolescents into healthy and productive adults is a priority of the United States and ending prejudice and injustice based on sexual orientation and gender nonconformity is a human rights issue;

1 (1) means any practice by a licensed mental
2 health provider, health care provider, or counselor
3 that seeks or purports to impose change of the sex-
4 ual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression
5 of an individual, including reducing or eliminating
6 sexual or romantic attractions or feelings toward an
7 individual of the same gender and efforts to change
8 behaviors, gender identity, or gender expression; and

9 (2) does not include counseling—

10 (A) that—

11 (i) provides acceptance, support, and
12 understanding of an individual;

13 (ii) facilitates the coping, social sup-
14 port, and identity exploration and develop-
15 ment of an individual;

16 (iii) provides developmentally appro-
17 priate counseling for an individual under-
18 going gender transition; or

19 (iv) provides sexual orientation- and
20 gender identity-neutral interventions to
21 prevent or address unlawful conduct or un-
22 safe sexual practices; and

23 (B) that does not seek to change sexual
24 orientation, gender identity, or gender expres-
25 sion.

1 (b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the
2 Senate that conversion therapy directed at minors is dis-
3 credited and ineffective, has no legitimate therapeutic pur-
4 pose, and is dangerous and harmful.

5 (c) STATE ENCOURAGEMENT.—The Senate encour-
6 ages each State to take steps to protect minors from ef-
7 forts that promote or promise to change sexual orienta-
8 tion, gender identity, or gender expression based on the
9 premise that being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or
10 gender nonconforming is a mental illness or developmental
11 disorder that can or should be cured.