

**As Introduced**

**133rd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2019-2020**

**S. B. No. 130**

**Senator Maharath**

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**A BILL**

To enact sections 4723.93, 4731.92, 4732.34, 1  
4743.09, and 4757.46 of the Revised Code to 2  
prohibit certain health care professionals from 3  
engaging in conversion therapy when treating 4  
minor patients. 5

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That sections 4723.93, 4731.92, 4732.34, 6  
4743.09, and 4757.46 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as 7  
follows: 8

**Sec. 4723.93.** The board of nursing shall comply with 9  
section 4743.09 of the Revised Code. 10

**Sec. 4731.92.** The state medical board shall comply with 11  
section 4743.09 of the Revised Code. 12

**Sec. 4732.34.** The state board of psychology shall comply 13  
with section 4743.09 of the Revised Code. 14

**Sec. 4743.09.** (A) As used in this section: 15

(1) "Applicant" means an individual who applies for 16  
licensure or registration, as applicable, to practice as a 17  
health care professional. 18

(2) "Conversion therapy" means the practice of seeking to 19  
change a person's sexual orientation, including efforts to 20  
change behaviors, gender identity, or gender expressions, or to 21  
reduce or eliminate sexual or romantic attractions or feelings 22  
toward a person of the same gender. 23

(3) "Health care professional" means any of the following: 24

(a) An advanced practice registered nurse licensed under 25  
Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code who is designated as a 26  
clinical nurse specialist; 27

(b) A physician authorized to practice medicine and 28  
surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery under Chapter 4731. 29  
of the Revised Code; 30

(c) A psychologist licensed under Chapter 4732. of the 31  
Revised Code; 32

(d) A licensed professional clinical counselor or licensed 33  
professional counselor licensed under Chapter 4757. of the 34  
Revised Code; 35

(e) An independent social worker, social worker, or social 36  
work assistant licensed or registered under Chapter 4757. of the 37  
Revised Code; 38

(f) An independent marriage and family therapist or 39  
marriage and family therapist licensed under Chapter 4757. of 40  
the Revised Code. 41

(4) "Minor" means an individual who is under eighteen 42  
years of age. 43

(5) "State licensing board" means the board of nursing, 44  
the state medical board, the state board of psychology, or the 45  
counselor, social worker, and marriage and family therapist 46

board. 47

(B) An applicant or health care professional shall not 48  
engage in conversion therapy when providing mental health 49  
treatment to a minor patient. 50

(C) Division (B) of this section does not prohibit any of 51  
the following: 52

(1) Assisting a patient who seeks to transition, is in the 53  
process of transitioning, or has transitioned from one gender to 54  
another; 55

(2) Providing a patient with acceptance, support, and 56  
understanding or facilitating a patient's coping, social 57  
support, or identity exploration and development; 58

(3) Providing a patient with sexual orientation-neutral 59  
interventions to prevent or address unlawful conduct or unsafe 60  
sexual practices; 61

(4) Counseling that does not seek to change a patient's 62  
sexual orientation. 63

(D) A state licensing board shall impose one or more of 64  
the following sanctions on an applicant or health care 65  
professional for a failure to comply with this section: suspend, 66  
revoke, or refuse to issue or renew the license or certificate 67  
of registration. 68

**Sec. 4757.46.** The counselor, social worker, and marriage 69  
and family therapist board shall comply with section 4743.09 of 70  
the Revised Code. 71