SENATE BILL NO. 201–SENATORS PARKS, RATTI, FORD, ATKINSON, SPEARMAN; CANCELA, CANNIZZARO, DENIS, FARLEY, MANENDO, SEGERBLOM AND WOODHOUSE

FEBRUARY 22, 2017

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN ARAUJO, CARRILLO, CARLTON, NEAL, COHEN; BROOKS, FLORES, KRASNER, OHRENSCHALL, SWANK, THOMPSON AND YEAGER

Referred to Committee on Commerce, Labor and Energy

SUMMARY—Enacts provisions relating to conversion therapies. (BDR 54-301)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets [~~omitted material~~] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to mental health professionals; prohibiting certain practitioners from providing sexual orientation or gender identity conversion therapy to a minor; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law regulates certain mental health professionals including psychiatrists, psychologists, licensed marriage and family therapists, certain registered nurses and certain licensed clinical or independent social workers. (Chapters 630, 632, 633 and 641-641B of NRS) This bill prohibits certain mental health professionals from providing sexual orientation or gender identity conversion therapy to a person who is under 18 years of age.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 629 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. A psychotherapist shall not provide any sexual orientation or gender identity conversion therapy to a person who is under

18 years of age regardless of the willingness of the person or his or her parent or legal guardian to authorize such therapy.

2. Any violation of subsection 1 is a ground for disciplinary action by a state board that licenses a psychotherapist as defined in subsection 3.

3. As used in this section:

(a) "Gender identity conversion therapy" means any psychotherapy, counseling, hypnosis or other treatment or therapy aimed at altering the gender-related identity of a person so that such gender identity, appearance, expression or behavior of a person, regardless of the person's assigned sex at birth, is eliminated, reduced or redirected to the person's assigned sex at birth.

(b) "Psychotherapist" means:

(1) A psychiatrist licensed to practice medicine in this State pursuant to chapter 630 and certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, Inc.;

(2) A psychiatrist licensed to practice medicine in this State pursuant to chapter 633 and certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Neurology and Psychiatry of the American Osteopathic Association;

(3) A psychologist licensed to practice in this State pursuant to chapter 641 of NRS;

(4) A social worker holding a master's degree in social work and licensed in this State as an independent social worker or a clinical social worker pursuant to chapter 641B of NRS;

(5) A registered nurse holding a master's degree in the field of psychiatric nursing and licensed to practice professional nursing in this State pursuant to chapter 632 of NRS; or

(6) A marriage and family therapist or clinical professional counselor licensed in this State pursuant to chapter 641A of NRS.

(c) "Sexual orientation conversion therapy" means any psychotherapy, counseling, hypnosis or other treatment or therapy aimed at altering the sexual or romantic attraction, desire or conduct of a person toward persons of the same sex so that such sexual or romantic attraction, desire or conduct is eliminated, reduced or redirected toward persons of the opposite sex. The term does not include treatment aimed at altering the sexual or romantic attraction, desire or conduct of a person towards children or persons related by consanguinity.

Sec. 2. This act becomes effective:

1. Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

2. On January 1, 2018, for all other purposes.

㉚