

Michigan

June 7, 2023

Health Policy Subcommittee on Behavioral Health Michigan House of Representatives 124 North Capitol Avenue Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Chair Brabec and subcommittee members:

Pride At Work is the LGBTQ+ affiliate of the AFL-CIO. We believe strongly that all people should be respected and celebrated for who they are - and no one should be subjected to harmful practices such as conversion therapy. For this reason, Pride At Work Michigan supports House Bills 4616 and 4617 to ban conversion therapy in Michigan.

The harms of conversion therapy are overwhelmingly apparent. As sobering as the statistics are, they only tell part of the story of how people subjected to conversion therapy are impacted. We stand with all who have been subjected to this practice; we hope that they experience healing and wholeness.

Executive Directive 2021-3 prohibits using state and federal funds towards conversion therapy for minors. This directive was an important step, but it was only a step. Now, it is up to lawmakers to pass this important legislation banning conversion therapy in Michigan once and for all.

Sincerely,

Scott Urbanowski (he/him/his) Michigan Chapter President, Pride At Work