

**SALT LAKE COUNTY
RESOLUTION**

PROTECTING MINORS FROM CONVERSION THERAPY

RESOLUTION NO. _____, 2019

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF SALT LAKE COUNTY, UTAH, URGING THE UTAH STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LAWS WHICH PROTECT MINORS FROM CONVERSION THERAPY BY PROHIBITING CONVERSION THERAPY FOR MINORS AND DIRECTING THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE MEMORIALIZED TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE.

BE IT KNOWN AND REMEMBERED:

THAT, the County Council of Salt Lake County, State of Utah, met in regular session of the Council this 25th day of June, 2019.

WITNESS:

WHEREAS, according to the nation’s leading medical and mental health organizations, the term “conversion therapy” refers to any practice or treatment that seeks to change the sexual orientation or gender identity of a patient or client; and

WHEREAS, these practices and treatments, which are also known as “reparative therapy,” “sexual orientation change efforts,” or “gender identity change efforts,” include practices or treatments that seek to change, eliminate, or reduce behaviors, expressions, attractions, or feelings related to a client’s or patient’s sexual orientation or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, conversion therapy has been associated with high rates of depression and suicidality among minors; and

WHEREAS, conversion therapy has been disavowed by the nation's leading medical and mental health organizations, including but not limited to the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the American College of Physicians, the American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association, the American Psychological Association, the American Psychoanalytic Association, the National Association of Social Workers, the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, the American Counseling Association, and the American School Counselor Association; and

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake County Council is the local Mental Health Authority for Salt Lake County; and

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake County Council has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to robust funding and support for Behavioral Health Services; and

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake County Council joins with community partners and medical and mental health professionals in seeking solutions to reduce rates of depression and suicidality impacting our community; and

WHEREAS, the State of Utah has a responsibility to protect minors from the harms inflicted by conversion therapy.

RESOLUTION:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT, Salt Lake County urges the Utah State Legislature and the Governor of the State of Utah to adopt a statute that protects minors from conversion therapy by prohibiting licensed mental health therapists from subjecting minors to these harmful and discredited practices, and

THAT, a signed copy of this resolution be sent to the Governor of the State of Utah, the Speaker of the Utah House of Representatives, the President of the Utah Senate, and all members of the Utah State Legislature who represent any constituents that reside in Salt Lake County.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED in Salt Lake City, Utah, this 25th day of June, 2019.

By: _____
Richard Snelgrove, Council Chair

ATTEST:

Sherrie Swensen
Salt Lake County Clerk

APPROVED as to form:

Gavin Anderson
Gavin Anderson, Deputy District Attorney
Dated: 21 June 2019

Council Member Bradley voting _____
Council Member Bradshaw voting _____
Council Member Burdick voting _____
Council Member DeBry voting _____
Council Member Ghorbani voting _____
Council Member Granato voting _____
Council Member Jensen voting _____
Council Member Newton voting _____
Council Member Snelgrove voting _____