

S.F. No. 23 – Prohibiting Conversion Therapy with Children or Vulnerable Adults

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S.F. 23 prohibits conversion therapy practice on children or vulnerable adults by mental health practitioners or mental health professionals. **S.F. 23** prohibits conversion therapy practice from being covered under Medical Assistance. **S.F. 23** also prohibits misrepresentation of services or products intended to change an individual’s sexual orientation or gender identity.

Section 1 [214.078] Protection from conversion therapy. Amends the council of health boards statutes by establishing protection from conversion therapy.

Subdivision 1. (Definition) Defines conversion therapy as a practice by mental health practitioners or mental health professionals, intended to change, eliminate, or reduce an individual’s sexual orientation. Includes efforts to eliminate or reduce feelings or attractions towards individuals of the same gender. Defines conversion therapy as a practice by mental health practitioners or mental health professionals intended to change an individual’s gender identity. Scope does not include counseling not seeking to change an individual’s sexual orientation or gender identity.

Subdivision 2 (Prohibition) Prohibits a mental health practitioner or mental health professional from practicing conversion therapy on an individual under 18 years old or a vulnerable adult and makes such practice subject to disciplinary action by the appropriate licensing board. The board may deny, revoke, suspend, limit, or condition the license or registration of mental health practitioners or mental health professionals.

Section 2 [256B.0625, subdivision 5n] Conversion therapy. Amends the Medical Assistance statute. Provides that conversion therapy practice is not covered under Medical Assistance.

Section 3 [325F.69, subd. 7] Advertisement and sales; misrepresentation of conversion therapy. Amends the Consumer Protection statute. Defines services or products intended to change an individual’s sexual orientation or gender identity. Prohibits any person or entity conducting any trade or commerce from offering conversion therapy services in a way that represents

homosexuality as a mental disease, disorder, or illness or guarantees change to an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity. Violators are subject to an injunction.