

FAILED



NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AMENDMENT
Senate Bill 442

AMENDMENT NO. A4
(to be filled in by
Principal Clerk)

S442-ACE-61 [v.1]

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Amends Title [NO]

Date _____, 2025

First Edition

Senator Grafstein

moves to amend the bill on page 3, lines 4-5, by inserting the following between the lines:

"**SECTION 2.5.(a)** Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Article to read:

"Article 1O.

"Mental Health Protection Act.

"§ 90-21.160. Short title.

This Article shall be known as the "Mental Health Protection Act."

"§ 90-21.161. Definition of conversion therapy.

For the purposes of this article, "conversion therapy" means the following: Any practices or treatments that seek to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity, including efforts to (i) change behaviors and gender expressions or (ii) eliminate or reduce sexual or romantic attractions or feelings toward individuals of the same gender. Conversion therapy shall not include counseling that provides assistance to an individual undergoing gender transition or counseling that provides acceptance, support, and understanding of an individual or facilitates an individual's coping, social support, and identity exploration and development, including sexual-orientation-neutral interventions to prevent or address unlawful conduct or unsafe sexual practices, as long as such counseling does not seek to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity.

"§ 90-21.162. Conversion therapy prohibited.

(a) The following professionals shall not engage in conversion therapy with an individual under 18 years of age:

(1) Fee-based practicing pastoral counselor as defined in G.S. 90-382.

(2) Licensed clinical social worker as defined in G.S. 90B-3.

(3) Licensed marriage and family therapist as defined in G.S. 90-270.47.

(4) Licensed professional counselor as defined in G.S. 90-330.

(5) Psychiatrist licensed in accordance with Article 1 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes.

(6) Psychologist as defined in G.S. 90-270.2.

(b) Conversion therapy practiced by any licensed professional in subsection (a) of this section shall be considered unprofessional conduct and shall subject each licensed professional who engages in the practice of conversion therapy to discipline under the licensed professional's respective licensing entity.



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1 (c) The Department of Health and Human Services shall have concurrent authority to
2 initiate proceedings for violations of this section. The Department shall promulgate rules in
3 accordance with this section.

4 "**§ 90-21.163. Prohibited State funding.**

5 No State funds, nor any funds belonging to a municipality, agency, or political subdivision
6 of this State, shall be expended for the purpose of conducting conversion therapy, referring an
7 individual for conversion therapy, health benefits coverage for conversion therapy, or a grant or
8 contract with any entity that conducts conversion therapy or refers individuals for conversion
9 therapy."

10 SECTION 2.5.(b) This section is effective when it becomes law and applies to acts
11 on or after that date."

SIGNED _____
Amendment Sponsor

SIGNED _____
Committee Chair if Senate Committee Amendment

ADOPTED _____ FAILED _____ TABLED _____

The official copy of this document, with signatures
and vote information, is available in the
Senate Principal Clerk's Office