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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETIETH SESSION

H. F. No. 2246

03/08/2017 Authored by Maye Quade and Fischer
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services Reform

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to health; prohibiting conversion therapy with children or vulnerable adults;
1.3 prohibiting medical assistance coverage for conversion therapy; amending
1.4 Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 256B.0625, by adding a subdivision; proposing
1.5 coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 214.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. [214.078] PROTECTION FROM CONVERSION THERAPY ACT.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Definition. "Conversion therapy" means any practice by a mental health
1.9 practitioner or mental health professional as defined in section 245.462 that is intended to
1.10 change an individual's sexual orientation, or intended to discourage a transition from one
1.11 gender to another. This includes efforts to eliminate or reduce sexual or romantic attractions
1.12 or feelings toward individuals of the same sex. Conversion therapy does not include: (1)
1.13 counseling that provides assistance to a person seeking to transition from one gender to
1.14 another; (2) counseling that facilitates a client's coping skills, social support, and identity
1.15 exploration and development; or (3) sexual orientation-neutral interventions to prevent or
1.16 address unlawful conduct or unsafe sexual practices.

1.17 Subd. 2. Prohibition. (a) No mental health practitioner or mental health professional
1.18 shall engage in conversion therapy with a client under 18 years of age or with a vulnerable
1.19 adult as defined in section 626.5572, subdivision 21.

1.20 (b) Conversion therapy attempted by a mental health practitioner or mental health
1.21 professional with a client under 18 years of age or with vulnerable adults shall be
1.22 unprofessional conduct and shall be subject to disciplinary action by the mental health
1.23 practitioner's or mental health professional's licensing board.

2.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.2 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 256B.0625, is amended by adding a subdivision
2.3 to read:

2.4 Subd. 5m. **Conversion therapy.** Conversion therapy, as defined in section 214.078, is
2.5 not covered.